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House Democrats delay vote on bill

Moderates insist on CBO weighing in on package

By Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top Democrats abruptly postponed an expected House vote Friday on their 10-year, \$1.85 trillion social and environment measure, as

infighting between progressives and moderates once again side-tracked the pillar of President Joe Biden's domestic agenda.

In a bid to hand him a needed victory, leaders still prepared to try pushing an accompanying \$1 trillion package of road and other infrastructure projects through the chamber and to his desk. But even the fate of that popular bill, expected to create jobs in every state, was in question.

Progressives threatened to

vote against it, continuing their demand that the two bills be voted on together to pressure moderates to support the larger, more expansive social measure. With Democrats able to lose just three votes and prevail in the narrowly divided House, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said she would press ahead anyway, saying she had a "pretty good feel" for the support.

Pelosi for years has refused to hold votes on bills unless she

had near certainty that they would pass to avoid embarrassing defeats.

The scrambled plans cast a fresh pall over a party that's struggled for weeks to take advantage of its control of the White House and Congress by advancing its top priorities. That's been hard, in part because of Democrats' slender majorities, with internal divisions forcing House leaders to miss several self-imposed deadlines for votes because of unre-

solved internal divisions.

Democratic leaders had hoped to see the House approve both measures Friday, producing twin triumphs for a president and party eager to rebound from this week's deflating off-year elections and show they can govern. The party's gubernatorial candidates were defeated in Virginia and squeaked through in New Jersey, two blue-leaning states.

Turn to Vote, Page 2

COLIN POWELL 1937-2021

A model for the future



JIM WATSON/GETTY-AFP

Members of a military honor guard carry the casket during the funeral service for former Secretary of State Colin Powell at the Washington National Cathedral on Friday in Washington, D.C. Powell who was battling a rare blood cancer, died last month at age 84 from complications related to COVID-19. **STORY, PAGE 4**

Police: Getaway driver strikes officer after shoplifting

By Christine Dempsey
and Seamus McAvoey
Hartford Courant

Police said they made two arrests after the suspected getaway driver in a Naugatuck shoplifting fled the scene, struck an officer and led police on a chase.

The officer, identified as Lt. Mark Pettinicchi, 47, suffered a shattered left ankle, fractured right ankle and a fractured right tibia after being struck by the vehicle on Thursday, Naugatuck police said Friday afternoon.

Pettinicchi, a veteran officer with 19 years of service, was taken to Waterbury Hospital where he underwent extensive surgery and is now recovering, police said.

"We would like to thank the Naugatuck community which has shown an outpouring of support for not only Lt. Pettinicchi and his family, but also for the police department as a whole," Naugatuck police said.

According to police, the escalating series of crimes started

with a shoplifting incident at the Walmart Supercenter, 1100 New Haven Road, around 4 p.m. A Naugatuck officer arrived in time to stop the suspect from getting into a nearby getaway car. The suspected shoplifter, later identified as Francis Ibell, ran away and was taken into custody after a short foot chase.

The getaway car took off, heading north on New Haven Road, or Route 63, where it struck Pettinicchi, who was directing traffic, police said. Witnesses told police it seemed the driver had intentionally hit Pettinicchi.

The vehicle, a 2006 Honda Ridgeline, kept going, traveling on Route 8 and I-84 through Waterbury and Wolcott, police said. An occupant threw drugs, cash, and a pistol from the car before it finally stopped in Middlebury.

Police said they recovered \$14,000 in cash, 412 bags of heroin, 11 grams of cocaine and a loaded .380 pistol. Officers

Turn to Driver, Page 3



Red light cameras and signs stand at the intersection of Silver Star and North Hiawassee roads in uninorporated Orange County on Feb. 18, 2020. **RICARDO RAMIREZ BUXEDA/ORLANDO SENTINEL**

City council considers push for red light cameras

By Rebecca Lurye
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — The Hartford city council may seek the state's permission to trial red light cameras — with violators receiving warnings, not tickets — in an effort to reduce serious crashes.

Hartford City Council President Maly Rosado, a Democrat, and four other council members plan to introduce a resolution Monday to support bringing a red light camera pilot program to the capital city to measure how the

devices impact traffic collisions and unsafe driving practices. The group also proposes asking the Hartford delegation to the General Assembly to sponsor a bill allowing the city to run the program.

While most research has found the cameras reduce red-light running and crashes, the technology is controversial in Connecticut, one of 26 states with no automated traffic enforcement systems on public roads.

Turn to Cameras, Page 2

Community advocates look to Biden's spending plan

Part of federal funding to go toward work mitigating gun violence

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

With gun violence escalating in cities like Hartford and New Haven, community violence intervention advocates in Connecticut are hoping to see a historic infusion of federal funding, part of President Joe Biden's \$1.75 trillion spending plan, go toward their work mitigating conflict.

The White House's "Build Back Better" framework — which may see a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives Friday — includes more than \$5 billion earmarked for community-based violence prevention programs, some of which could come directly to Connecticut.

During a session with U.S. Senators Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy in New Haven Friday morning, community violence intervention advocates said that increased funding could be a game-changer for their programs, which are often understaffed and underfunded, even as cities like Hartford face significant spikes in gun violence.

"What we do is not magic. We're committed, we're consistent, we're courageous," said Leonard Jahad, the executive director of the Connecticut Violence Intervention Program, which works with New Haven youth ages 13 to 24 to mediate conflict and offer social activities, at the program's Dixwell headquarters.

His staff of six outreach workers, who serve as "credible messengers" to young New Haveners, are on call 24/7, every day of the year.

"If someone's harmed by community violence, we're getting a call at 2 o'clock in the morning, we're stopping what we're doing and we're racing down to the hospital, because we know that we need to be there to assist in calming aggravated emotions and start working with the victims," he said.

But the program has limited resources, Jahad told the senators. Outreach workers only make \$35,000 annually and many work second jobs.

With more funding, Jahad would aim to pay his staff a livable wage and double the number of outreach workers. And one day, he said, he hopes to see a building like the program's headquarters, which includes a music recording studio and space for youth to socialize and do schoolwork, in every neighborhood in New Haven.

Turn to Gun Violence, Page 3

Some options available for consumers to pay for heating costs

State regulators on Friday approved higher electricity prices for Eversource Energy and United Illuminating, but there are some options for those needing help this winter. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

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FROM PAGE ONE

Vote

from Page 1

But those plans were dashed when, after hours of talks, a half-dozen moderates insisted they would vote against the package of health, education, family and climate change initiatives unless the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office first provided its cost estimate for the measure.

Democratic leaders have said that would take days or more. With Friday's delay and lawmakers' plans to leave town for a week's break, that could mean the budget estimates would be ready by the time a vote is held.

Readjusting the party's timeline for finally passing the \$1.85 trillion measure to reflect political reality, Pelosi said that once the CBO figures are provided, "we'll have a Thanksgiving gift for the American people."

The infrastructure measure cleared the Senate easily in August with bipartisan support, including the backing of Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. The package would provide huge sums for every state for highway, rail, mass transit, broadband, airport, drinking and waste water, power grids, ports and other projects.

But it became a pawn in the long struggle for leverage between Democrats' progressives and moderates. Progressives said they'd back the infrastructure legislation only if the two measures were voted on together.

Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., who leads the



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi talks to reporters Friday after delays in the infrastructure vote. JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP

95-member Congressional Progressive Caucus, revived that timing link Friday, saying the White House and Congress' nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation had provided all the fiscal information lawmakers needed for the broad bill.

"If our six colleagues still want to wait for a CBO score, we would agree to give them that time — after which point we can vote on both bills together,"

she wrote. That strongly suggested that at least some progressives would vote Friday against the infrastructure bill.

Earlier Friday, Biden, meeting reporters to tout a strong monthly jobs report, said he was returning to the Oval Office "to make some calls" to lawmakers. He said he would ask them to "vote yes on both these bills right now."

House passage of Biden's

larger measure would send it to the Senate, where it would face certain changes and more Democratic drama. That's chiefly because of demands by Sens. Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona to contain the measure's costs and curb or drop some of its initiatives.

But House approval of the smaller, bipartisan infrastructure measure would

send it directly to the White House, where Biden would be certain to take a victory lap.

Pelosi met late Thursday with Hispanic lawmakers wanting the larger measure to go as far as possible in helping immigrants remain in the U.S. Their prospects for bold action are limited by strict Senate rules, though. Rep. Adriano Espaillat, D-N.Y., said Friday that they'd discussed

moving on the issue in other bills.

Pelosi's strategy seemed focused on passing the most robust social and climate bill possible in her chamber and then leaving it to the Senate to adjust or strip out the portions its members won't agree to. In late tweaks to the bill to nail down votes, the House Rules Committee approved revisions to a state-and-local tax deduction and other issues.

Cameras

from Page 1

In Connecticut, lawmakers have repeatedly rejected bills that would allow use of the traffic enforcement technology, most recently

in 2019. The automated devices are often criticized for civil rights issues raised by their use, from problems fighting tickets to worries the cameras will be concentrated in urban centers.

Proponents, on the other hand, say the cameras are a

cost-effective way to make streets safer, citing various studies that estimate red light cameras reduce crashes by 13% to 29%.

The Hartford resolution, citing the Connecticut Crash Data Repository, states that 47% of Hartford's traffic

collisions took place at intersections during the 12-month period ending Aug. 21. In that same time, 4% of crashes were caused by a driver running a red light.

The council members also cite a 2017 study that found red light camera systems in

large cities reduced the rate of fatal red light-running crashes by 21%, and the rate of all fatal crashes at signalized intersections by 14%.

The resolution is backed by four Democrats, Rosado, Nick Lebron, Marilyn Rossetti and James "Jimmy"

Sanchez Jr., and Hartford Party representative John Gale, a former Democrat.

The council meets virtually Monday at 7 p.m.

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LOTTERY
Friday, Nov. 5

PLAY3 DAY 5 / 6 / 8 **WB:** 7
PLAY4 DAY 5 / 5 / 5 / 7 **WB:** 2

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

THURSDAY'S LATE NUMBERS
PLAY3 NIGHT 7 / 8 / 2 **WB:** 7
PLAY4 NIGHT 5 / 4 / 4 / 6 **WB:** 6
CASH 5 16 / 28 / 30 / 33 / 35
LUCKY FOR LIFE 6 / 9 / 12 / 23 / 41 **LB:** 8
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WORLD & NATION

Food banks embarking on expansion projects

Efforts come while food insecurity persists in pandemic

By Sudhin Thanawala
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Food banks across the country are pursuing major expansion projects driven in part by their experiences during the pandemic, when they faced an explosion of need.

“So many people who had never had to ask for help found themselves in a position of needing it and not knowing where to go,” said Ginette Bott, president and CEO of the Utah Food Bank. “It was like somebody flipped a switch.”

Even though demand for fresh and packaged provisions has dropped from pandemic peaks, the need remains far above pre-pandemic levels.

Feeding South Florida is planning a large new plant to increase its produce supply.

Two North Carolina food banks flush with cash from billionaire philanthropist MacKenzie Scott are set to build new structures that will double their capacity to store food.

The Utah Food Bank is adding space in Salt Lake City and is also set to erect new food warehouses elsewhere in the state.

And in Georgia, the Atlanta Community Food Bank moved into a 345,000-square-foot warehouse billed as the world’s largest food bank.

While the move preceded COVID-19, officials say it was a boon during the pandemic.

“We have never, ever, including during the pandemic, been able to touch everyone who needs (help),” said Claire Babin-eaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America, a national network of most food banks in the U.S. “But what we’ve come to understand better than we ever have before is what we’re capable of and how do we think through the long game.”

In Utah, one of two new warehouses will be near a Native American reservation that was a challenge to serve during the pandemic, said Bott. The second site will offer free dinners to kids, a population that suffered acutely from food insecurity when schools that provided meals went virtual.

Overall, the food bank will more than double its storage capacity after it incurred additional costs for extra space needed during the pandemic, Bott said.

She estimated the new projects would cost roughly \$40 million.

As part of its own expansion, the Food Bank of the Albemarle in northeast North Carolina is making sure it has enough generators in case a hurricane or tornado knocks out power, said Executive Director Liz Reasoner.

Meanwhile, Feeding South Florida is planning to build a 50,000- to 80,000-square-foot plant to freeze and package produce.



Teshia Elliott sorts food Sept. 22 at the Atlanta Community Food Bank’s Hunger Action Center. As a result of the pandemic, some food banks are preparing to permanently boost distribution efforts through expansion. JOHN BAZEMORE/AP PHOTOS



Kyle Waide, president of the Atlanta Community Food Bank, notes that a variety of rising costs and other pressures means people will have trouble meeting basic needs indefinitely.

The goal is to take in more crops during the growing season and then make them available year-round, said CEO Paco Velez.

“There’s still a lot of produce that goes to waste,” he said.

The projects come amid persistent food insecurity in the U.S. despite the country’s slow crawl back from the economic fallout of the pandemic. Feeding Amer-

ica’s food banks provided a record 6.6 billion meals between July 2020 and June 2021, up from 5.2 billion the year before, the organization said.

On a recent weekday, a dozen cars lined up well before opening time at the Toco Hills Community Alliance, a food pantry in a well-off suburb northeast of Atlanta. Volunteers in masks waited under a white tent to

load canned fruit and vegetables, fresh produce and meat and other groceries into trunks as drivers came through one at a time.

Helen Moody, a 60-year-old disabled U.S. Army veteran, has relied on the pantry for groceries since 2017. Moody said she and her husband live off \$2,000 a month and do not qualify for federal food assistance.

“We’re on a real tight

budget,” she said. “When we come over here, then we’re able to have just a little bit for other things, just a little leeway because other than that you have no breathing space.”

The community alliance buys some of its food from the Atlanta Community Food Bank at deeply discounted prices. The food bank’s expansion has given it access to a wider variety

of food products, said Lisa Heilig, the alliance’s executive director.

A few months ago, she was able to offer guava, a fruit familiar to some of the Hispanic immigrants who use the pantry.

The Atlanta Community Food Bank’s new facility near Atlanta’s international airport has a food storage area equal to roughly 5 ½ football fields.

A tour of the facility last month provided a glimpse of the advantages a larger site provides.

Forklifts carrying large pallets of food moved freely around the expansive floor, their drivers beeping gently to warn passersby. Nearly three dozen docking doors allowed trucks to deliver and pick up food with no wait times. In a separate area, volunteers in masks checked the expiration dates of cereal boxes, canned soup and other groceries.

Food banks rely heavily on volunteers, but many could not safely accommodate them during the pandemic and had to find alternate sources of help.

The new location has allowed the food bank to distribute tens of millions of additional pounds of food.

“There’s just a large number of our neighbors, who by virtue of rising housing costs, rising health care costs and other pressures that they face, need help meeting all their basic needs,” said Kyle Waide, president of the Atlanta Community Food Bank. “And we think that pressure is going to be here indefinitely even without the pandemic.”

Gun Violence

from Page 1

Jacquelyn Santiago, the chief executive officer of Compass Youth Collaborative, a Hartford youth violence prevention group, made a similar pitch to the senators. In the past year and a half, she said, Compass has confronted a worsening landscape of gun violence, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. And despite their low pay, outreach workers have continued responding to calls.

“They don’t get paid enough,” Santiago said. “There is not enough time

for us to invest in their self-care. ... We just don’t have enough people in the community to do this work.”

With the Build Back Better plan still under negotiation, the \$5 billion aimed at gun violence prevention efforts is far from guaranteed.

“The size of this investment that President Biden has proposed is shrinking and we cannot allow for the community anti-gun violence programming to be a casualty,” Murphy told the group.

But Blumenthal said that if the plan is passed, a large chunk of the funding — which would be allocated by

the Department of Justice — could come to Connecticut.

“Connecticut will be at the very top of the list of states that will be enabled to do more,” he said. “Why? Because we’re already doing it.”

Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@courant.com.

RIGHT: Jacquelyn Santiago, chief executive officer of Compass Youth Collaborative, speaks at a listening session with U.S. Sens. Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy on Friday morning in New Haven. ELIZA FAWCETT/HARTFORD COURANT



Driver

from Page 1

believe the seized drugs had the presence of fentanyl, police said.

With help from Waterbury and Middlebury police, officers took the driver, Stanton Ragar Trent, and a passenger, Asia Shynise Paulin, into custody, police said.

Trent was arrested on

charges that include first-degree robbery, first-degree assault, engaging police in pursuit and possession with intent to sell, police said. He was in custody on \$1 million bail. Paulin also was arrested

on drug charges and faces a charge of carrying a pistol without a permit; her bail was set at \$300,000.

The suspected shoplifter, Ibell, was charged with first-degree robbery,

sixth-degree larceny and other charges, they said. His bail was set at \$500,000.

Police asked those with more information to contact Naugatuck Police at 203-729-5221 or the confidential tip

line at 203-720-1010.

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Powell honored as model for future

Soldier-diplomat was said to have ‘transcended time’

By Robert Burns and Matthew Lee
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Colin L. Powell, the trailblazing soldier-diplomat who rose from humble beginnings to become the first Black secretary of state, was remembered by family and friends Friday as a principled man of humility and grace whose decorated record of leadership can serve as a model for generations to come.

“The example of Colin Powell does not call on us to emulate his resume, which is too formidable for mere mortals,” his son, Michael, said in a touching tribute at his father’s funeral service at Washington National Cathedral. “It is to emulate his character and his example as a human being. We can strive to do that.”

The funeral on a sunny and chilly day drew dignitaries and friends from across the political and military spectrum. They included President Joe Biden and former presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, former secretaries of state James Baker, Condoleezza Rice and Hillary Clinton, former Defense Secretary Robert Gates, and the current chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Army Gen. Mark Milley.

Two recent presidents did not attend — Bill Clinton, who is recovering from a severe infection, and Donald Trump, who publicly disparaged Powell after his death for having been critical of the former president.

Powell died Oct. 18 of



The casket of former Secretary of State Colin Powell is carried Friday in Washington. **MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP**

complications from COVID-19 at age 84. He had been vaccinated against the coronavirus, but his family said his immune system had been compromised by multiple myeloma, a blood cancer for which he had been undergoing treatment.

As guests gathered in the cavernous cathedral that has hosted the funerals of several past presidents, including Dwight D. Eisenhower, the U.S. Army Brass Quintet played a range of tunes, including “Dancing Queen” by Abba, a favorite of Powell’s.

Madeleine Albright, who was Powell’s immediate predecessor as secre-

tary of state, called him “a figure who almost transcended time,” and “one of the gentlest and most decent people any of us will ever meet.”

“He relished the opportunity to connect with other generations,” she said.

“This morning my heart aches,” she added, “because we’ve lost a friend and our nation one of its finest and most loyal soldiers. Yet even as we contemplate the magnitude of our loss, we can almost hear a familiar voice asking us — no, commanding us — to stop feeling sad, to turn our gaze once again from the past to the future and to get on with

the nation’s business while making the most of our own days on Earth, one step at a time.”

During her tenure as ambassador to the United Nations during the Clinton administration, Albright sometimes clashed with Powell, although they became good friends. Both have recalled the time, during his final months as Joint Chiefs chairman, when she argued for a U.S. military intervention in the Balkans, asking why the United States had built a superb military if it couldn’t be used in such circumstances. Powell recalled being so irritated by her statement, “I thought I

would have an aneurysm.”

Powell’s view was that the United States should commit its military only when it had a clear and achievable political objective, a key element of what became known as the Powell Doctrine, which embodied lessons learned from the U.S. failure in Vietnam.

The story of Powell’s rise to prominence in American life is a classic.

In his autobiography, “My American Journey,” Powell recalled a 1940s childhood in the Hunts Point section of New York City’s South Bronx, where he was a mediocre student — happy-go-lucky but aimless.

He caught the military bug during his first year at the City College of New York in 1954. Powell was inspired by seeing fellow students in uniform, and he enrolled in the school’s Reserve Officer Training Corps.

“I felt distinctive” in uniform, he wrote.

Although he was only 4 when the United States entered World War II, he had vivid memories of the war years. “I deployed legions of lead soldiers and directed battles on the living room rug,” he wrote — a fantasy forerunner of his Army years.

Powell would serve 35 years in uniform. Commissioned in 1958, he served around the world, including two tours in Vietnam in the 1960s.

He distinguished himself at the Pentagon even before he attained flag officer rank. In the late 1970s he worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and in 1983 as a brigadier general he became the senior military assistant to Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. He later served in the White House as President Ronald Reagan’s national security adviser, and in 1989 he was promoted to four-star general. Later that year, President George H.W. Bush selected him to be the first Black chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

After leaving government, he became an elder statesman on the global stage and the founder of an organization aimed at helping young disadvantaged Americans. Republicans wanted him to run for president. He ended up endorsing the last three Democratic presidential candidates, who welcomed his support.

Pfizer: COVID-19 pill cut hospital, death risk 90%

Drugmaker says it will ask the FDA for approval

By Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Pfizer Inc. said Friday that its experimental antiviral pill for COVID-19 cut rates of hospitalization and death by nearly 90% in high-risk adults, as the drugmaker joined the race for an easy-to-use medication to treat the coronavirus.

Currently most COVID-19 treatments require an IV or injection. Competitor Merck’s COVID-19 pill is already under review at the Food and Drug Administration after showing strong initial results, and on Thursday the United Kingdom became the first country to OK it.

Pfizer said it will ask the FDA and international regulators to authorize its pill as soon as possible, after independent experts recommended halting the company’s study based on the strength of its results. Once Pfizer applies, the FDA could make a decision within weeks or months.

Since the beginning of the pandemic last year, researchers worldwide

have been racing to find a pill to treat COVID-19 that can be taken at home to ease symptoms, speed recovery and keep people out of the hospital.

Having pills to treat early COVID-19 “would be a very important advance,” said Dr. John Mellors, chief of infectious diseases at the University of Pittsburgh, who was not involved in the Pfizer study.

“If someone developed symptoms and tested positive we could call in a prescription to the local pharmacy as we do for many, many infectious diseases,” he said.

On Friday, Pfizer released preliminary results of its study of 775 adults. Patients who received the company’s drug along with another antiviral shortly after showing COVID-19 symptoms had an 89% reduction in their combined rate of hospitalization or death after a month, compared to patients taking a dummy pill. Fewer than 1% of patients taking the drug needed to be hospitalized and no one died. In the comparison group, 7% were hospitalized and there were seven deaths.

“We were hoping that we had something extraordinary, but it’s rare that you see

great drugs come through with almost 90% efficacy and 100% protection for death,” said Dr. Mikael Dolsten, Pfizer’s chief scientific officer, in an interview.

Study participants were unvaccinated, with mild-to-moderate COVID-19, and were considered high risk for hospitalization due to health problems like obesity, diabetes or heart disease. Treatment began within three to five days of initial symptoms, and lasted for five days. Patients who received the drug earlier showed slightly better results, underscoring the need for speedy testing and treatment.

Pfizer reported few details on side effects but said rates of problems were similar between the groups at about 20%.

An independent group of medical experts monitoring the trial recommended stopping it early, standard procedure when interim results show such a clear benefit. The data have not yet been published for outside review, the normal process for vetting new medical research.

Top U.S. health officials continue to stress that vaccination will remain the best way to protect against infection. But with tens of



Donald Davis is one of the participants in the clinical trial of Pfizer’s antiviral pill who were unvaccinated and high risk for hospitalization. **MICHAEL STRAVATO/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

millions of adults still unvaccinated — and many more globally — effective, easy-to-use treatments will be critical to curbing future waves of infections.

The FDA has set a public meeting later this month to review Merck’s pill, known as molnupiravir. The company reported in September that its drug cut rates of hospitalization and death by 50%. Experts warned against comparing preliminary results because of differences in the studies, including where they were conducted and what types of variants were circulating.

“There’s a big difference

between 50% and 90%,” Mellors said, “but we need to make sure the populations were comparable.”

Although Merck’s pill is further along in the U.S. regulatory process, Pfizer’s drug could benefit from a safety profile that is more familiar to regulators with fewer red flags. While pregnant women were excluded from the Merck trial due to a potential risk of birth defects, Pfizer’s drug did not have any similar restrictions. The Merck drug works by interfering with the coronavirus’ genetic code, a novel approach to disrupting the virus.

Pfizer’s drug is part of a decades-old family of antiviral drugs known as protease inhibitors, which revolutionized the treatment of HIV and hepatitis C. The drugs block a key enzyme viruses need to multiply in the human body.

The U.S. has approved one other antiviral drug for COVID-19, remdesivir, and authorized three antibody therapies that help the immune system fight the virus. But they have to be given by IV or injection at hospitals or clinics, and limited supplies were strained by the last surge of the delta variant.



Greta Thunberg salutes after giving a speech Friday in Glasgow, Scotland. **JON SUPER/AP**

Inside and outside climate talks, youths urge faster action

By Seth Borenstein and Frank Jordans
Associated Press

GLASGOW, Scotland — Young people both inside and outside of the United Nations climate talks are telling world leaders to hurry up and get it done, that measures to avoid catastrophic warming can’t wait.

Ashley Lashley, a 22-year-old from Barbados who is on her country’s climate negotiation team in Glasgow, thought about how to

communicate the need for urgency during a session on carbon trading. As she listened to other delegates debate the intricate and intractable topic that has baffled negotiators for more than six years, a phrase popped into her head: “blah-blah-blah.”

That’s the expression prominent teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg has started repeating to express her thoughts on the pace of government actions to curb global warming. The Thun-

berg-inspired Fridays for Future movement held a demonstration outside the conference venue to pressure the negotiators inside, drawing tens of thousands of participants.

And inside, the session Lashley attended droned on. She worries her fellow negotiators too easily become bogged down in minutiae and lose sight of the big picture: keeping emissions from exceeding 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit, which could wipe out some island

nations.

Umuhoza Grace Ineza, 25, a negotiator for Rwanda, said she watches some sessions crawling along and hears other negotiators say “Ooh, let’s try this way, that way, and then we can come up with a decision next session.” Ineza says she wants to ask them if they understand how urgent limiting climate change is for the next generation.

University of Michigan graduate student observers AJ Convertino and Evan

Gonzalez said watching the sessions on the inside made them both more impatient but also more optimistic because they see the right things being said and done, if still way too slowly.

Friday was the day the U.N. conference said it was dedicating to youth. But the schedule didn’t reflect that.

“It’s our future. Our future is being negotiated, and we don’t have a seat at the table,” said 20-year-old Boston College student Julia Horchos.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

Ex-Justice lawyer and Trump ally cuts short his Jan. 6 deposition

From news services

WASHINGTON — A former assistant attorney general who aligned himself with former President Donald Trump after he lost the 2020 election has declined to be fully interviewed by a House committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection, ending a deposition after around 90 minutes Friday.

Jeffrey Clark, who championed Trump's efforts to overturn the election, presented the committee with a letter saying he would not answer questions based on Trump's assertions of executive privilege, including in an ongoing court case, according to a person familiar with the closed-door meeting who was granted anonymity to discuss it. Clark left the interview with his lawyer, who told reporters that they were heading "home."

Clark, who was subpoenaed by the committee to appear, would not answer any questions from reporters as he departed.

A committee spokesman also declined to comment.

Clark's refusal is just the latest fallout from Trump's attempt to assert executive privilege in a lawsuit he filed against the committee and the National Archives. The suit aims to block the government from releasing a tranche of internal White House documents, including call logs, drafts of remarks, speeches and handwritten staff notes from before and during the insurrection. President Joe Biden has so far waived executive privilege on nearly all the documents that the committee has asked for, citing the panel's need to investigate the violent attack.

Amid the legal wrangling, the House panel has struggled to gain coopera-

tion from some of Trump's other top allies — including his longtime associate Steve Bannon and former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows — as it conducts a sweeping investigation outside of public view. The committee has interviewed more than 150 witnesses so far, according to two people familiar with the interviews who requested anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss them.

Palestinian boy killed: A 13-year-old Palestinian boy was shot and killed by Israeli fire during clashes in the occupied West Bank on Friday, Palestinian health officials said.

The teen, identified as Mohammad Daadas, died as a result of a gunshot wound to the stomach during clashes with Israeli forces near the northern West Bank village of Deir al-Hatab, said the health officials' statement. Daadas was taken to a nearby hospital, where medical staff pronounced him dead.

The Palestinian Red Crescent medical service said the Israeli army fired live ammunition, as well as tear gas and rubber bullets, at protesters while also closing off surrounding roads, preventing their ambulances from entering the site. No other serious injuries were reported.

In a statement issued later Friday, the army said dozens of Palestinians near Deir al-Hatab began hurling rocks at Israeli troops who responded with live fire.

Flint water fallout: The state of Michigan said Friday it agreed pay \$300,000 to settle wrongful discharge claims by the only employee who was fired as a result of lead-contaminated water in Flint.

The deal with Liane



A member of the Women of the Wall clutches a Torah scroll Friday as she is surrounded by Israeli security forces holding back protesters at the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem. Thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jews protested against the group that holds monthly prayers there in a long-running campaign for gender equality at the site. **MAYA ALLERUZZO/AP**

Shekter Smith, who was head of the state's drinking water division, came weeks after an arbitrator said she was wrongly fired in 2016 by officials likely looking for a "public scapegoat" in one of the worst environmental disasters in U.S. history.

The state this week faced a deadline to appeal the order through the civil service system as well as an award of \$191,880 in back pay and other compensation. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration instead paid 56% more to Shekter Smith to close the case.

Asked why the state is paying more, Hugh McDermid Jr., spokesman for the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, said there was no guarantee that the arbitrator's figure would hold during an appeal. Shekter Smith had been seeking more than \$900,000 in lost compensation.

Bosnia flooding: Heavy rain caused severe flash flooding

in Bosnia, prompting evacuations, causing power outages in most of the capital, closing a key facility for oxygen used for COVID-19 patients and submerging roads in some parts of the Balkan country on Friday.

The only certified medicinal oxygen filling plant in Bosnia, part of Germany's Messer Group, was among workplaces and homes in the suburbs of Sarajevo that had to be evacuated after being overrun by fast-moving flood water.

Avdo Delic, general manager of Messer's Bosnia branch, said the plant was completely submerged, and voiced concern that hospitals around the country treating COVID-19 patients might run out of medicinal oxygen cylinders unless the company's operations are quickly restored at alternative locations.

Hundreds of homes in the Sarajevo suburbs, along the rivers Bosnia, Tilava and Zeljeznica, and in the southwest part of the country, around the town of

Konjic, also had to be evacuated under heavy downpours.

Cuomo complaint 'defective': A prosecutor investigating accusations that former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo groped a woman asked a judge for more time to evaluate the evidence, saying the criminal complaint filed last week by the local sheriff was "potentially defective," according to a letter released Friday.

The request from Albany County District Attorney David Soares came a week after Cuomo was charged with a misdemeanor sex crime. The one-page complaint filed in Albany City Court by a sheriff's office investigator accuses Cuomo of forcible touching by putting his hand under a woman's shirt on Dec. 7.

Soares said in a letter to Judge Holly Trexler on Thursday that his office had been investigating the matter for several months. "We were in the middle

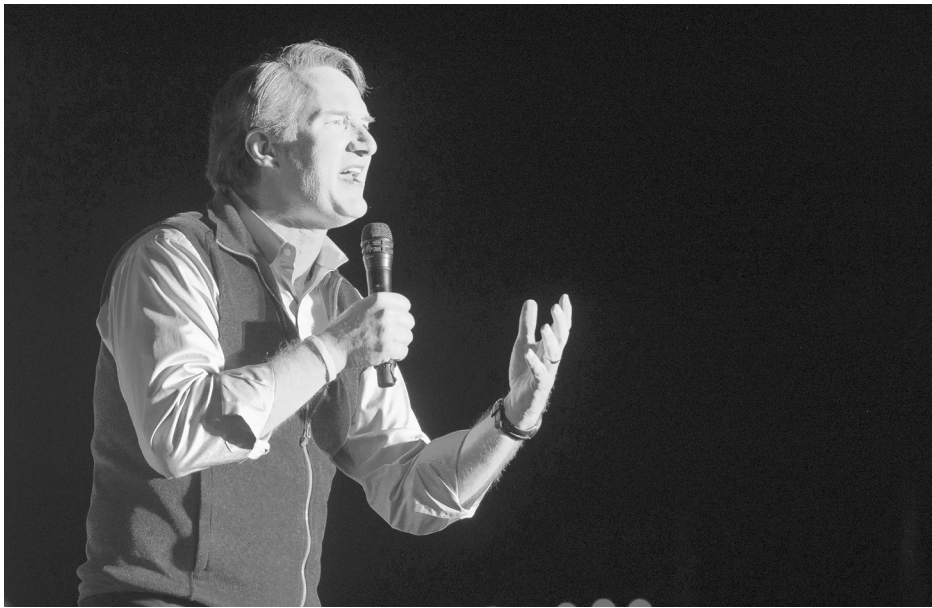
of that investigation when the Sheriff unilaterally and inexplicably filed a complaint in this court," Soares wrote in the letter.

The court granted a delay until Jan. 7, 2022, a spokesperson for Soares said.

Knight son jailed: The son of R&B legend Gladys Knight has been sentenced to serve two years in prison for failing to withhold payroll taxes for the restaurants that bore his mother's name, federal prosecutors in Atlanta said.

From at least 2012 to 2016, Shanga Hankerson, 45, failed to remit more than \$1 million in payroll taxes at his restaurants, Gladys Knight's Chicken and Waffles, which first opened in Atlanta in 1997, prosecutors said.

Knight won a legal battle to sever ties to the business in 2017, and her son was ordered to stop using her name, likeness and memorabilia, according to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.



The GOP is supercharging a message over race and education that helped catapult Republican Glenn Youngkin to a win in Virginia's governor's race Tuesday. **CLIFF OWEN/AP**

After Va., GOP amplifies the debate over race, education

By Thomas Beaumont, Aaron Morrison and Will Weisert
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans plan to forcefully oppose race and diversity curricula — tapping into a surge of parental frustration about public schools — as a core piece of their strategy in the 2022 midterm elections, a coordinated effort to supercharge a message that mobilized right-leaning voters in Virginia this week and which Democrats dismiss as race-baiting.

Coming out of Tuesday's elections, in which Republican Glenn Youngkin won the governor's office after aligning with conservative parent groups, the GOP signaled that it saw the fight over teaching about racism as a political winner. Indiana Rep. Jim Banks, chairman of the conservative House Study Committee, issued a memo suggesting "Republicans can and must become the party of parents." House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy announced support for a "Parents' Bill of Rights" opposing the teaching of

"critical race theory," an academic framework about systemic racism that has become a catch-all phrase for teaching about race in U.S. history.

"Parents are angry at what they view as inappropriate social engineering in schools and an unresponsive bureaucracy," said Phil Cox, a former executive director of the Republican Governors Association.

Democrats were wrestling with how to counter that message. Some dismissed it, saying it won't have much appeal beyond the GOP's most conservative base. Others argued the party ignores the power of cultural and racially divisive debates at its peril.

They pointed to Republicans' use of the "defund the police" slogan to hammer Democrats and try to alarm white, suburban voters after the demonstrations against police brutality and racism that began in Minneapolis after the killing of George Floyd. Some Democrats blame the phrase, an idea few in the party actually supported, for contributing to losses in House races last year.

If the party can't find an

effective response, it could lose its narrow majorities in both congressional chambers next November.

The debate comes as the racial justice movement that surged in 2020 was reckoning with losses — a defeated ballot question on remaking policing in Minneapolis, and a series of local elections where voters turned away from candidates who were most vocal about battling racism.

Bernice King, the daughter of the late civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. who runs Atlanta's King Center, warned attempts to roll back social justice advances are "not something that we should sleep on."

Banks' memo included a series of recommendations on how Republicans aim to mobilize parents next year, and many touch openly on race. He proposed banning federal funding supporting critical race theory and emphasizing legislation ensuring schools are spending money on gifted and talented and advanced placement programs "instead of exploding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion administrators."

Prosecutor: Arbery's killers 'did everything' on assumptions

By Russ Bynum
Associated Press

BRUNSWICK, Ga. — White men in pickup trucks chased Ahmaud Arbery for five minutes, and one threatened to shoot him, as they cut off the jogger's escape from a Georgia subdivision and ultimately killed the 25-year-old Black man with a shotgun, a prosecutor told a trial jury Friday.

In her opening statement, prosecutor Linda Dunikoski said the short cellphone video that stirred national outrage over the slaying offered only a glimpse of the attack on Arbery, who gave his pursuers no reason to suspect him of any wrongdoing.

"They assumed that he must have committed some crime that day," Dunikoski said. "He tried to run around their truck and get way from these strangers, total strangers, who had already told him that they would kill him. And then they killed him."

Arbery's killing on Feb. 23, 2020, was largely ignored until the video leaked and deepened a national reckoning over racial injustice.

Greg McMichael and his adult son, Travis McMichael, armed themselves and pursued Arbery in a pickup truck as he ran through their neighborhood just outside the port city of Brunswick. A neighbor, William "Roddie" Bryan, joined the chase and recorded graphic video of Travis McMichael shooting Arbery with a shotgun.

Travis McMichael's defense attorney, Robert Rubin, described Arbery to the jury as "an intruder" and a "scary mystery" to residents of a neighborhood already on edge from thefts and property crimes. Arbery had been recorded by security cameras four times inside a home under construction between October 2019 and February 2020



Prosecutor Linda Dunikoski speaks at the trial of Greg and Travis McMichael and William "Roddie" Bryan on Friday in Brunswick, Georgia. **OCTAVIO JONES/REUTERS**

when he was killed.

"No one knows him," Rubin said in his opening statement. "He's not jogging in the neighborhood No one's ever seen him. The only time we see Ahmaud Arbery in the neighborhood is at night on these cameras."

The chase started on a Sunday afternoon when a neighbor who's not charged in the case called a none-emergency police number after seeing Arbery wandering inside a home under construction, where security cameras had recorded him before.

Greg McMichael saw Arbery run past his home and ran inside to alert his son. They grabbed guns, jumped in their truck and gave chase, Dunikoski said. Bryan joined them after seeing Arbery run past the McMichaels' truck outside his home.

She said Greg McMichael later told police that at one point during the chase he shouted at Arbery, "Stop or I'll blow your ... head off!"

When a police officer who responded to the shooting asked Greg McMichael if Arbery had broken into a house, he told the officer: "That's just it. I don't know ... I don't know. He might have gone in somebody's house," according to

Dunikoski.

"All three of these defendants did everything they did based on assumptions — not on facts, not on evidence," Dunikoski said. "And they made decisions in their driveways based on those assumptions that took a young man's life."

She said the grainy cellphone video shows Travis McMichael raise his shotgun beside the truck as Arbery approaches and tries to run around the opposite side. Travis McMichael is then seen stepping in front of the truck with the gun to confront the fleeing man, she said.

As Dunikoski played the video of Arbery's death for the jury, his mother, Wanda Cooper-Jones, sobbed as her attorney tried to console her.

Defense attorneys planned to give their own opening statements later Friday.

Superior Court Judge Timothy Walmsley swore in the disproportionately white jury Friday before proceedings began. All three defendants are standing trial together, charged with murder and other felonies.

Arbery had been dead for more than two months before the three men were jailed last year.

BUSINESS

COURANT.COM/BUSINESS

US hiring rebounded in October with 531K jobs

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — America’s employers stepped up their hiring in October, adding a solid 531,000 jobs, the most since July and a sign that the recovery from the pandemic recession may be overcoming a virus-induced slowdown.

Friday’s report from the Labor Department also showed that the unemployment rate fell to 4.6% last month, from 4.8% in September. That is a comparatively low level but still well above the pre-pandemic jobless rate of 3.5%.

The economy’s emergence from the pandemic, by most measures, remains on course. Services companies in such areas as retail, banks and warehousing have reported a sharp jump in sales. More Americans bought new homes last month. And consumer confidence rose in October.

Still, the recovery would gain strength from a sustained acceleration in hiring. The economy grew at a healthy 6.5% annual rate in the first half of the year as vaccinations spread and Americans showed themselves more willing to travel, shop, eat out and attend entertainment events. Yet the

delta variant held economic growth in the July-September quarter to just a 2% annual rate and sharply slowed hiring.

Recent economic gauges have cast a hopeful picture. After several rounds of stimulus checks and other government support payments, Americans as a whole have amassed about \$2.5 trillion more in savings than they had before the pandemic. As that money is spent, it will likely fuel further economic activity.

The Conference Board, a business research group, said that in its October consumer confidence survey, the proportion of Americans who said they planned to buy cars, homes or major appliances all rose. And nearly half the survey respondents said they planned to vacation in the next six months — the highest such proportion since February 2020, before COVID-19 ripped through the economy.

Yet some companies say they still can’t find enough workers to fill jobs. Many parents, particularly mothers, haven’t returned to the workforce after having left jobs during the pandemic to care for children or other relatives. Defying the predictions of some, the expiration of a \$300-a-week federal unemployment

supplement hasn’t caused more people to look for work. Roughly 5 million fewer people have jobs now than did before the pandemic.

Most economists say they’re hopeful that with vaccinations helping to suppress the delta wave, more people will seek and find jobs because they’re no longer sick or caring for someone who is or because they no longer fear becoming infected. Those health issues had sidelined more people in September than in previous months.

America’s workers, who now enjoy greater leverage in the job market than they have in decades, are receiving solid pay increases. The draw of higher income could entice more people to come off the sidelines and look for work again. Wages and salaries in the July-September quarter, compared with a year earlier, jumped by the most in 20 years. Most of that gain, though, went to already employed people who left their jobs: The number of people who quit, mostly to take new positions, has reached a record high.

Rising inflation, though, has eroded much of the value of those pay increases and has become the most serious headwind for the U.S. economy.

11 states file suit against Biden’s shot mandate

By David A. Lieb
Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Attorneys general in 11 states filed suit Friday against President Joe Biden’s administration, challenging a new vaccine requirement for workers at companies with more than 100 employees.

The lawsuit filed in the St. Louis-based 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals argues that the authority to compel vaccinations rests with the states, not the federal government.

“This mandate is unconstitutional, unlawful and unwise,” said the court filing by Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt.

New regulations by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration mandate that companies with more than 100 employees require their workers to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or be tested for the virus weekly and wear masks on the job. The requirement is to kick in Jan. 4. Failure to comply could result in penalties of nearly \$14,000 per violation.

Schmitt said Missouri has 3,443 private employers who could be covered by the vaccine requirement, with nearly 1.3 million employees. The Biden administration has been encouraging widespread vaccinations as the quickest way out of the pandemic.

The top legal official for the U.S. Department of Labor, which includes OSHA, has said legal precedent allows it to issue rules that keep workplaces safe and that those rules preempt state laws.

Missouri was joined in the lawsuit by the Republican attorneys general of Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. The office of Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller, a Democrat, also joined in the suit, along with several private, nonprofit and religious employers.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Peloton hits wall as its sales stall

SILVER SPRING, Md. — Peloton suffered its worst day as a publicly traded company Friday after telling investors that it will likely lose more money than it had expected in fiscal 2022.

Peloton thrived during the pandemic, recording its first and only profitable quarters with Americans unable to hit the gym and instead setting up places to work out at home. Sales of its high-end bikes and treadmills soared, as did subscriptions for its online, interactive classes.

Those sky-high sales have stalled, however, since the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines.

The New York City company said that it expects those lucrative subscriptions to drop 6%.

Shortage in chips for Nintendo

TOKYO — The shortage in computer chips needed to make the Nintendo Switch machine is a serious problem unlikely to be resolved soon, the president of the Japanese video-game maker said Friday.

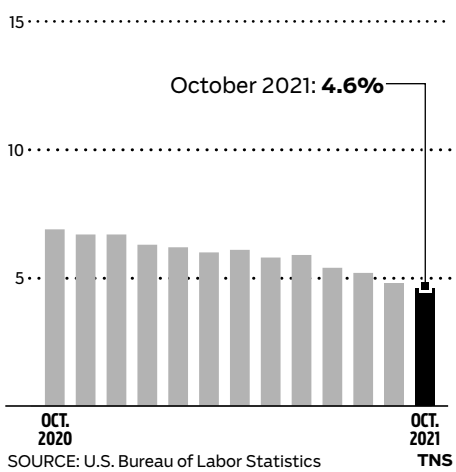
“The extremely tight situation remains, and the future is uncertain,” Shuntaro Furukawa told reporters.

Furukawa said the dearth of computer chips, which is affecting manufacturing of many products, was behind Nintendo’s decision to cut its forecast for Switch sales for the fiscal year through March to 24 million machines from an earlier 25.5 million units.

Production and shipping disruptions related to the coronavirus pandemic are plaguing electronics manufacturers, auto-makers and many other industries.

Jobless rate

Percent of civilian labor force that is unemployed, by month, seasonally adjusted



Keryn Francisco interacts Tuesday with her 10-year-old son Reve Francisco on how to ride a bicycle in Alameda, California. During her time away from work, Francisco made a discovery that hadn't quite seemed clear to her before: "I was burned out." **HAVEN DALEY/AP**

Women choosing to sit out

As US economy rebounds from pandemic, many have delayed a return to the workforce

By Bobby Caina Calvan
and Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

NEW YORK — There was a time when Naomi Pena could seemingly do it all: Work a full-time job and raise four children on her own.

But when the pandemic struck early last year, her personal challenges began to mount and she faced an aching decision: Her children or her job?

She chose her children.

In August, Pena left her well-paying position as an executive assistant at Google in New York City. In doing so, she joined millions of other women who are sitting out the job market recovery while caring for relatives, searching for affordable child care, reassessing their careers or shifting their work-life priorities.

"I had to pivot," said Pena, 41, and a single mother. "I walked away from a salary job with amazing benefits, so ultimately I could be present with my kids."

Pena knows she'll eventually have to look for another full-time job — or join the gig economy — to regain a steady income. Just not yet.

The pandemic has both laid bare the disproportionate burdens many women shoulder in caring for children or aging parents and highlighted the vital roles they have long played in America's labor force. The United States bled tens of millions of jobs when states began shuttering huge swaths of the economy after COVID-19 erupted. But as the economy has swiftly rebounded and employers have posted record-high job openings, many women have delayed a return to the workplace, willingly or otherwise.

Among mothers of children 13 or younger, the proportion who were employed in September was nearly 4% below pre-pandemic levels, according to Nick Bunker, director of economic research at the Indeed job listings website. For fathers with young children, the decline was 1%.

Many economists and officials, including Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, had speculated that the reopening of schools would free more mothers to take jobs. So far that hasn't happened.

Months before the pandemic, Keryn

Francisco, a 51-year-old former designer for The North Face, had to decide whether to move, along with her company, to Denver.

She ultimately decided not to leave.

And as COVID-19 raged, she became more comfortable with her decision, even if it meant being unemployed and shrinking her severance payout. She had been collecting unemployment aid and has picked up some freelancing to avoid dipping too deeply into savings.

A single parent, Francisco wanted to focus on caring for her son, now 10, and her elderly parents in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"It was out of a sense of responsibility and obligation," she said. "But also, honestly, I didn't know what was happening with COVID. So there was a lot of fear and kind of insecurity about like, if my parents died."

During her time away from work, Francisco made a discovery that hadn't quite seemed clear to her before: "I was burned out."

Now, she's considering the conditions for a full-time return to the workforce.

"Once you leave the corporate treadmill," she said, "you can actually catch your breath. Something does change inside of you."

Meta discusses opening physical retail stores

By Mike Isaac
The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO — One of Mark Zuckerberg's first steps toward building the metaverse may be physical instead of virtual.

Meta, the social media company formerly known as Facebook, has discussed opening retail stores that will eventually span the world, said people with knowledge of the project and company documents viewed by The New York Times. The stores would be used to introduce people to devices made by the company's Reality Labs division, such as virtual reality headsets and, eventually, augmented reality glasses, they said. These devices are gateways to the

metaverse, a futuristic digital world where people move from virtual to augmented versions of reality almost seamlessly. Zuckerberg, Facebook's founder and CEO, last week renamed his company Meta and laid out a vision for pursuing the metaverse as the next social platform. The stores would help show people that virtual reality and augmented reality can be fun and exciting.

The aim of the stores is to make the world "more open and connected," according to the company documents viewed by The Times. They are also intended to spark emotions like "curiosity, closeness," as well as a sense of feeling "welcomed" while experimenting with headsets in a "judgment free journey," according to the documents.

Discussions about physical stores predated Facebook's rebranding by many months, with serious work on the initiative having started last year, the people said. And the project, which is still in development, may not proceed, they said. But if Meta moves forward with stores, it would be a first for a tech giant that has existed largely digitally, with more than 3.5 billion people using its apps such as Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and Messenger.

A Meta spokeswoman declined to comment.

"We are, at best guess, at least five to 10 years out from a fully fleshed out Meta product or service," said Tim Derdenger, a professor at Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business.

BUSINESS



Antonio Alvarez carries a bunch of bananas Oct. 31 at a plantation on La Palma, one of the Canary Islands. A volcanic eruption upended the lives of farmers. EMILIO MORENATTI/AP

Banana farmers’ livelihoods blasted by lava on La Palma

By Emilio Morenatti and Joseph Wilson
Associated Press

LAS MANCHAS DE ABAJO, Canary Islands — His home went first. Then the house his father built. Then the lottery stand and hardware store.

Lastly, Antonio Alvarez had to watch as lava from a volcanic eruption slowly devoured the remaining pillar of his family’s wealth: the dozen acres he dedicated to growing the Canary Island banana that for generations has provided the agricultural lifeblood of the Atlantic Ocean archipelago.

“My father always told me ‘don’t make the house too big, it won’t make you money; invest in banana! The bananas will give you a house.’ And it’s true,” Alvarez said. “When I filmed (the lava destroying) my father’s house, it was seeing him die all over again. That house was a part of him.”

Alvarez, 54, is one of thousands of farmers and workers on Spain’s La Palma island whose livelihoods have been put in jeopardy by the destruction

wrecked by volcano that is still going strong six weeks after the ground first broke open Sept. 19.

The regional government of the Canary Islands, an archipelago including La Palma off the coast of north-west Africa, estimates that the volcano has already caused \$116 million in losses for the island’s banana industry. Over 390 acres of land used for banana farming have been covered by molten rock, and more than 700 additional acres have been cut off after roads on the island’s western side were enveloped by lava.

The banana growers association for the Canary Islands, ASPROCAN, estimates 1,500 of the island’s 5,000 owners of banana plantations have been hurt. Most owners have small patches or a few acres. Many, like Alvarez, have seen their land burnt and crushed. Others have lost harvests because they can’t get to their trees. And many more have seen their product become unmarketable due to the volcanic ash that has ruined the banana peels.

It’s been a shock wave for an industry that provides

30% of the economic life of the island, according to regional government statistics. There are entire businesses dedicated to packing and transporting the fruit, which, along with tourism, keeps La Palma going.

“They say it has wiped out 10% of the island’s economy. I think it is more. It wasn’t just the bananas, or the apartments, or the bed-and-breakfasts, it has taken everything,” Alvarez said. “What has happened to us has happened to 90% of the people here.”

La Palma, an island of 85,000, is the second-largest producer of banana for the eight-member archipelago. Last year it produced 148,000 tons of the local banana, most of which were shipped to Spain’s mainland.

The house of farmer Jesus Perez is still at risk, but for him the most important property he owns is already gone.

“I would have preferred to lose my house instead of my banana trees,” Perez, 56, said. “The trees give you life, the house gives you nothing. I have sacrificed all my life, and for what, nothing?”

Workers flex their muscles with employers eager to hire

By Emma Goldberg
The New York Times

Zella Roberts was one of the highest-performing waitresses at the Sonic drive-in in Asheville, North Carolina, her manager told her, but there were days during the pandemic when Roberts questioned whether she could continue her job. The customers were unruly and often unmasked; the base pay was \$5 an hour. Then one afternoon in November 2020, a man coughed in her face as she served him a hot dog. Roberts went home and cried.

Some of her colleagues were quitting — often walking out midshift — and Roberts, 22, could tell that the managers were “sweating” trying to figure out how to staff the restaurant. So instead of leaving, she wrote a petition. She asked that Sonic make it easier for customers to tip their carhops. Weeks later, her manager pulled her aside to say the Sonic app was being changed to allow credit card tips.

Back at home, Roberts and her friends celebrated by blasting an old union song, Pete Seeger’s “Which Side Are You On?”

“Workers are fed up, and restaurants are desperate,” Roberts said. “We’re scarce, we have higher standards, and that gives us more power than we’ve had before.”

With the country’s labor force down over 4 million people and resignations at a high, employers are desperate to hire. The share of job postings on ZipRecruiter offering retirement plans is up 30% since before the pandemic; posts advertising flexible scheduling grew threefold; the share offering signing bonuses went from 2% to 12%.

Still, people are leaving their jobs. In August, 1 in 14 hospitality workers quit



Zella Roberts said “workers are fed up.” MIKE BELLEME/ THE NEW YORK TIMES

their jobs, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a quit rate over 50% higher than before the pandemic.

Today, job seekers find nearly 50% more openings than they had pre-COVID-19, and many can expand their search beyond their hometowns because of newly flexible workplace arrangements across industries.

Workers are feeling a sense of possibility. Some are resigning. Some are waiting for a prime gig. Others are requesting raises or remote work options — while still clocking in. Employers are noting the jump in demands and in some cases catering to it, during a shift in power they realize may be long-lasting.

“People don’t realize the scale of what has changed,” said Julia Pollak, chief economist at ZipRecruiter. “If you take even one chair away in musical chairs, it changes the entire dynamic of the game.”

Businesses are scrambling to offer new benefits, including bonuses and family insurance plans; some hospitality companies are promising managers “stay bonuses” as high as \$75,000 to prevent poaching. Workers, meanwhile, are taking the chance to make bolder requests of their bosses.

Adam Ryan, 33, who works at a Target in Christiansburg, Virginia, has been trying to organize his co-workers, who are not

unionized, to ask for better pay and conditions since he started at the store in 2017.

Before the pandemic, Ryan used to see a look of fear creep over his co-workers’ faces when he asked them to sign his petitions. But in recent weeks, Ryan’s colleagues have been eager to hear his ideas.

“Folks feel that they’ve been through a lot and have less to lose,” Ryan said.

Last month, Target announced that it would pay employees an extra \$2 hourly during peak days of the holiday season, which Ryan saw partly as a response to the pressure employees like him put on the company.

Target is one company facing employees who want higher pay, better benefits or more flexible working arrangements. There have been strikes against 178 employers this year as of mid-October, according to a Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations tracker.

Even in what economists have christened a “workers economy,” many tech and service workers are at-will employees and can be fired with little warning. And when workers have managed to sustain wins, the improvement they see in working conditions or earnings is often marginal.

Weekly wages for restaurant workers, for example, have increased as the hospitality industry struggles to find staffing. But that has brought annual earnings for nonsupervisory workers up to roughly just \$22,000 as of September.

“There’s a lot of momentum right now, but there are some very serious obstacles toward workers actually acquiring sustained levels of power,” said Heidi Shierholz, president of the Economic Policy Institute, noting that less than 11% of American workers are represented by unions.

MARKET RUNDOWN				
Saturday, November 6, 2021				
▲ DOW 36,327.95 +203.72		▼ 10-YR T-BOND 1.45% -.07		▲ GOLD \$1,816.40 +23.40
		Commodities		
		FUELS		
			CLOSE	PREV. YTD
		Crude Oil (bbl)	81.27	78.81 +67.50%
		Natural Gas (mm btu)	5.52	5.72 +117.25%
		Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.32	2.29 +63.01%
		METALS		
			CLOSE	PREV. YTD
		Gold (oz)	1,816.40	1,793.00 -4.05%
		Silver (oz)	24.15	23.91 -8.28%
		(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)		
		Foreign Exchange		
		ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx	
		Britain	1.3482 .7417	
		Canada	.8027 1.2458	
		China	.1563 6.3989	
		Euro	1.1549 .8658	
		Japan	.008818 113.40	
		Mexico	.049118 20.3591	
		Money Rates		
			CLOSE	PREV. WK.
		Prime rate	3.25	3.25
		3-mo. T-Bill	0.05	0.05
		6-mo. T-Bill	0.07	0.07
		5-yr T-Note	1.04	1.15
		10-yr T-Note	1.45	1.54
		30-yr T-Bond	1.88	1.96
		Global Markets		
			CLOSE	CHG. %CHG. %YTD
		Frankfurt	16,054.36	+24.71 +.15% +17.02%
		London	7,303.96	+24.05 +.33% +13.06%
		Hong Kong	24,870.51	-354.68 -1.41% -8.67%
		Nikkei	29,611.57	-182.80 -.61% +7.90%
Domestic Indexes				
	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD	
DOW Indus.	36,327.95	+203.72	+18.69%	
DOW Trans.	16,843.98	+110.85	+34.68%	
DOW Util.	918.63	+7.52	+6.24%	
NYSE Comp.	17,242.36	+73.49	+18.71%	
Nasdaq Comp.	15,971.59	+31.28	+23.92%	
S&P 500	4,697.53	+17.47	+25.07%	
S&P 400	2,905.11	+25.04	+25.95%	
Wilshire 5000	48,868.23	+196.87	+23.85%	
Russell 2000	2,437.08	+34.65	+23.41%	
Stocks of Local Interest				
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	YTD
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	41.70	+1.65	+1867.0	
AT&T Inc (T)	25.10	+.30	-12.7	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	136.34	-1.16	+48.7	
Airbnb Inc A (ABNB)	201.62	+23.17	+37.3	
Alzamend Neuro Inc (ALZN)	2.88	+.59	-78.7	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	21.82	+1.19	+38.4	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	81.44	+2.32	...	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	151.28	+.54	+14.0	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	51.45	+.29	+13.2	
Bank of America (BAC)	46.97	-.36	+55.0	
Barnes Group (B)	44.19	+2.55	-12.8	
Bed Bath &Beyond (BBBY)	22.57	+2.40	+27.1	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2618.97	+181.96	+17.6	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	59.45	+.20	-4.2	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	93.78	-.71	+37.3	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	24.79	+1.91	+14.5	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	52.79	-.18	+40.0	
Charter Commun (CHTR)	689.32	+3.25	+4.2	
Cigna Corp (CI)	214.12	+.96	+2.9	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	53.90	+1.17	+2.9	
ContextLogic Inc (WISH)	4.93	-.14	-73.0	
Deicphera Pharma (DCPH)	8.82	-27.18	-84.5	
Disney (DIS)	175.63	+5.35	-3.1	
DraftKings Inc (DKNG)	43.62	-1.06	-6.3	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	132.25	+5.42	+44.6	
Endo Intl plc (ENDP)	6.18	+1.24	-13.9	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	24.87	+.59	+23.1	
Eversource Energy (ES)	84.41	+.59	-2.4	
Exela Technologies (XELA)	1.78	-.23	+42.6	
Ford Motor (F)	19.29	-.13	+119.5	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	8.95	-.33	-19.9	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	201.00	+2.84	+35.1	
Gen Electric (GE)	108.74	+3.53	+26.1	
Hartford Fr Sv (HIG)	71.83	-.11	+46.7	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	226.06	+3.57	+6.3	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	17.60	+.08	+32.9	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	22.79	+.08	+34.5	
Intel Corp (INTC)	50.92	+.61	+2.2	
Kaman (KAMN)	41.41	+2.13	-27.5	
Keycorp (KEY)	23.68	+.15	+44.3	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	72.46	+.65	+44.0	
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	41.80	+4.68	+55.8	
Lumen Technologies (LUMN)	14.11	+.39	+44.7	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	50.37	+2.97	+59.9	
Magellan Health Inc (MGLN)	94.75	-.05	+14.4	
Merck & Co (MRK)	81.61	-8.93	-.2	
Meta Platforms Inc (FB)	341.13	+5.28	+24.9	
Meten Holding Group (METX)	.63	+.12	-68.8	
MetLife Inc (MET)	63.99	+.08	+36.3	
Moderna Inc (MRNA)	236.99	-47.03	+126.8	
Nikola Corp (NKLA)	13.14	-2.30	-13.9	
Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH)	28.92	+2.10	+13.7	
Novartis AG (NVS)	83.65	-.04	-11.4	
Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	297.52	-.49	+127.9	
Ocugen Inc (OCGN)	10.24	+.18	+459.6	
Ontrak Inc (OTRK)	11.71	+2.04	-81.0	
Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	81.71	-.13	+21.0	
Palantir Technol (PLTR)	26.00	-.47	+10.4	
Peloton Interactive (PTON)	55.64	-30.42	-63.3	
Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	17.97	+.07	+39.0	
Pfizer Inc (PFE)	48.61	+4.76	+32.1	
Pitney Bowes (PBI)	7.38	+.05	+19.8	
Progenity Inc (PROG)	3.52	-.08	-33.7	
Prudential Fncl (PRU)	110.92	-.88	+42.1	
Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	64.19	+.51	+10.1	
Qualcomm Inc (QCOM)	163.03	+6.92	+7.0	
Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	91.18	+3.12	+27.5	
Rogers Corp (ROG)	269.50	+.14	+73.5	
SS&C Technologies (SSNC)	77.82	-.01	+7.0	
Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	183.83	-.44	+3.0	
Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	26.04	+.30	+34.9	
Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.64	-.01	+35.7	
Terex Corp (TEX)	48.52	+1.26	+39.1	
Tilray Inc (TLRY)	10.70	-.11	+29.5	
Travelers Cos (TRV)	159.60	+3.10	+13.7	
Uber Technologies (UBER)	47.19	+1.92	-7.5	
United Rentals (URI)	391.96	+5.99	+69.0	
UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	455.81	-.95	+30.0	
Virtus Invest (VRTS)	329.02	+2.55	+51.6	
Voya Financial (VOYA)	68.16	+.51	+15.9	
Webster Financial (WBS)	58.70	+.87	+39.3	
White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1083.35	+18.81	+8.3	
Workhorse Group (WKHS)	6.55	-.67	-66.9	
World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	58.66	-1.68	+22.1	
XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	78.60	-3.49	+13.3	
Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	19.53	+.68	-15.8	
Zynga Inc (ZNGA)	6.90	-.15	-30.1	

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OPINION

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OP-ED

Democrats have only themselves to blame

By E.J. Dionne Jr.
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — There was only one good thing for Democrats in Tuesday’s elections: A defeat so comprehensive and disastrous does not leave room for excuse-making, blame-shifting or evasion.

President Joe Biden and his party can respond with urgency, or they will surrender the country to a Republican Party still infected by Trumpism.

All of Tuesday’s portents were negative. In both Virginia and New Jersey, Republicans were energized and Democrats were indifferent.

In Virginia’s GOP rural precincts, the places where Donald Trump is still a hero, voters surged to polling places in a tidal wave. Republican Glenn Youngkin ran ahead of Trump’s 2020 showing in counties where there did not seem to be much room for improving his party’s vote.

Democrats, particularly young and Black voters, stayed away, making up a far smaller share of the electorate than they did a year ago.

Democrat Terry McAuliffe had hoped that continuing fear of Trump would be enough to push him past an opponent who played down his connections with Trump in the suburbs but signaled his loyalty to the former president’s faithful.

But in the end, exit polling made clear, hostility to Biden mattered more than alarm over Trump.

Virginia has not converted to Trumpism. On the contrary, only 42% of its voters on Tuesday saw the former president favorably; 54% viewed him unfavorably, but Youngkin managed to win 17% of those anti-Trump voters. By connecting just well enough with suburban moderates, the fleece-wearing, hoops-shooting Republican ratified the potential of a two-faced GOP strategy toward Trump for the 2022 midterms.

The Biden drag was unmistakable. McAuliffe won 93% of the voters who approved of Biden, Youngkin 91% of those who disapproved of him. The Democrats’ problem: In Tuesday’s electorate, Biden’s rating was 45% positive, 54% negative. But McAuliffe cannot simply blame the president or a dithering Democratic Congress for failing to enact the president’s program in a timely way — even if they have much to answer for.

McAuliffe will no doubt long regret 12 words that Youngkin played back again and again in advertising that blanketed the state: “I don’t think parents should be telling schools what they should teach.”

It was a dismissive formulation that made it far harder for McAuliffe to push back against Youngkin’s demagogic attack on critical race theory, which is not taught in Virginia’s schools. McAuliffe was not wrong to describe Youngkin’s appeal as “a racist dog whistle.” It certainly worked that way. But Democrats and progressives need a much better answer to parental discontent.

They must be more aggressive in responding to a right-wing strategy of disrupting school boards all over the nation and seeking to censor books not to the far right’s liking. They also have to make a compelling argument for how schools can offer an honest accounting of the role of racism in American life that also honors the country’s achievements. They cannot continue to let Trumpists dominate this discussion.

One thing Democrats should not do: tear themselves apart with arguments over critical race theory itself, a set of ideas far better debated in law schools and graduate schools than at school board meetings.

Democrats would also be foolish to litigate whether moderates or progressives in Congress are most to blame for McAuliffe’s loss and the surprisingly weak showing of Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy in New Jersey. They must all take responsibility for the unconscionable delays in enacting the president’s program. So must Biden.

The warning signs were there for months. Democrats buried a series of popular initiatives under a debate over how big the program should be. They bickered and dawdled while the president’s approval ratings burned, obsessing about adversaries within while ignoring the partisan enemy outside the gates. Is it any wonder that so many among the party’s supporters failed to show up on Tuesday?

Democrats must move swiftly to enact and defend the president’s program, and Senate Democrats cannot allow the filibuster to block action on voting rights, now a more urgent cause than ever. Republican state governments will continue to throw up roadblocks to voting — and Black voters who were key to Biden’s victory will not forgive the president or his party if they just walk away from the pivotal civil rights battle of our time.

Yes, Biden could see better days if the coronavirus subsides and the economy continues to improve. But the president cannot write off the collapse of his party’s vote in two states he won commanding as an off-year fluke. His task was not only to defeat Trump but also to replace Trumpism with a more hopeful and practical vision of how our country can be governed.

This is a mission he has yet to accomplish.

E.J. Dionne writes about politics for The Washington Post.



Jose Rodriguez holds his daughter Kaeley, 7, after she received a Pfizer-BioNtech COVID-19 vaccine from firefighter Luke Lindgren on Wednesday in Shoreline, Washington. **DAVID RYDER/GETTY**

OP-ED

I’m a mother and a pediatrician. My kids are getting COVID vaccines right away.

By Gabriela M. Maradiaga Panayotti
The Charlotte Observer

Dear fellow parents: Please get your kids vaccinated. I’m doing so this week.

As a pediatrician at Duke Health, I’ve seen many children and families suffer from COVID-19 over the last 20 months. The parents of my patients tell me about the fevers, body aches, headaches and loss of smell that have lasted for months. With approval this week of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5-11, we can ease a great deal of that heartache.

COVID-19 has not only harmed adults.

In North Carolina, about 250,000 of the state’s COVID-19 cases — roughly 1 in every 6 — has been a child. And with the emergence of the more contagious delta variant over the last several months, more and more children have become infected.

COVID-19 is unpredictable. Some children have it and never know; symptoms can be nonexistent, mild, serious or even deadly. But even a mild or asymptomatic infection can force a child into quarantine, a disruption to the predictable, consistent routine that helps children thrive.

With moderate illness, they may need to be hospitalized, which can be very traumatic. Almost 10% of children who had COVID-19 may experience prolonged

symptoms, such as trouble concentrating, fatigue, headache, muscle and joint pain and insomnia.

A recent report showed that 1 out of every 3 children admitted to the hospital with COVID-19 ends up in the intensive care unit and may need life support. Sadly, over 700 children have now died of COVID-19 in the United States, more than usually die of influenza in an average year.

And COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on children of color. Black and Hispanic children represent more than half of the child hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19. Meanwhile, recent research found that 140,000 American children have lost a parent to COVID-19, many of them racial and ethnic minorities.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had profound effects on the mental health of children as well. I’ve seen it in my own patients, like the bubbly little girl who I’ve been taking care of for four years.

This child has traditionally been so upbeat that I had a sticky note to remind myself: “She’s always happy!” But when I last saw her a few months ago, she was gripped by anxiety and thoughts of suicide; the pandemic had turned her world upside down. She never had COVID-19 herself, but the pandemic had cut her off from her own life support:

school, friends and activities.

She was not the only one. In my 15 years as a pediatrician, I have never seen so many young girls cutting their wrists as a suicidal gesture, as I have this year.

But there is hope now.

COVID-19 finally joins the list of other vaccine-preventable illnesses like measles, tetanus and polio. There don’t have to be another 700 childhood deaths next year. With the protection of the vaccine on board, our children can now be part of the fight, part of the victory.

Over the last year my kids have watched me on countless virtual town halls sharing stories about the hardships my patients and their families face. They have heard their father, a pulmonologist and intensive care doctor, come home day after day talking about the different ways he and his team try to save the lives of people suffering from COVID-19.

My children are 7 and 9 years old, and I see the vaccine as a chance to give them agency — to empower them in this fight against COVID-19. And the good news is that we have a safe and effective way to do it. I am getting them vaccinated as soon as the vaccine is available.

Please join me.

Gabriela M. Maradiaga Panayotti is a pediatrician at Duke Health.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support women’s right to choose

It has been two months since Texas’ six-week abortion ban — the most extreme and cruel abortion ban in the country — went into effect. On Nov. 1 the U.S. Supreme Court heard opening arguments challenging the law. While we wait, thousands of people in Texas are denied access to abortion. Our rights must be protected, and it’s clear we need Congress to act. Thank you to our champion, Sen. Richard Blumenthal, for demonstrating true leadership by introducing the Women’s Health Protection Act (WHPA), and thank you to Connecticut’s congressional delegation for co-sponsoring the bill.

WHPA protects the right to abortion throughout the United States and guards against abortion bans and other medically unnecessary abortion restrictions. The bill has passed the House, and now the Senate must take immediate action — patients in Texas and across the country can’t wait. I urge you to reach out to friends in other states and ask them to call their senators to demand a vote in the Senate. And please thank Sens. Blumenthal and Chris Murphy for co-sponsoring WHPA and for being champions for reproductive rights.

Jamie Daniel, South Windsor

The writer is a board member of Planned Parenthood Votes! Connecticut

Iran won’t ‘change course,’ as Biden hopes

The statement in Sunday’s article about Iran that President Joe Biden “opened the door to lifting sanctions” is frightening [Page 4, Oct. 31, “US could lift sanctions if Iran ‘changes course’]. Our government, together with Europe, suggested we would throw Iran a lifeline if it changed course away from nuclear weapons. That change will not happen in our present state of desperation. Iran has an overarching zeal to become a nuclear power and dominate the Middle East and maybe someday the world. Nothing will



Caroline McDonald, left, a student at Georgetown University, Lauren Morrissey, with Catholics for Choice, and Pamela Huber, of Washington, join an abortion-rights rally outside the Supreme Court on Monday as arguments are set to begin about abortion by the court, on Capitol Hill in Washington. **JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP**

force it from that course other than an overwhelming display of military force, which is unlikely, or rigid, scrupulous enforcement of sanctions that the administration instead has been loosening and might loosen even further.

Iran could disingenuously promise to slow weapons development but will never voluntarily “change course.” Unlimited access for inspections, wherever and whenever, is essential. Sadly, however, Iran will never seriously agree, as we saw with the 2015 “Iran deal.” Iran might promise, but we will have neither the will nor ability to verify or enforce. The negotiations with Iran that the administration craves are nothing but a fool’s errand in the absence of increasing sanctions pressure and credibility about our determination to stop Iran.

Mark I. Fishman, New Haven

The writer is president of PRIM-ER-Connecticut (Promoting Responsibility in Middle East Reporting)

Seek opposing viewpoints on CRT

It saddens me that, when there are so many issues that our country needs to deal with, critical race theory has become one of the main topics. My guess is that, like me, most people would have difficulty defining the concept. There was a panel on the subject at the University of Connecticut that can be accessed on UConn’s website. More importantly, I would respectfully suggest that anyone with strong feelings have a low-key conversation with someone who has a different background or point of view. And let’s encourage Connecticut’s elected school boards to do their work without undue interference.

Jonathan M. Daube, Northampton, Massachusetts

The writer is president emeritus of Manchester Community College, where he served from 1987 to 2008

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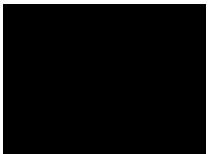
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& White F, #120 terrier Mix, Gray &
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Real Estate

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SALE: Located at 6 Straight Wharf,
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The first floor space has an extensive
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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Commissioning Services for New Farmington
High School and Central Offices

Proposals will be accepted at the BOE Office,
Farmington Town Hall, 1. Monteith Drive,
Farmington, CT 06032 until 2:00 PM Eastern
Daylight Time on November 19, 2021.
Instructions to bidders may be obtained at
www.fpsct.org. Links: Department-Business
Services-Facilities & Operations > RFP/Bid
Opportunities

The Farmington High School (FHS) Building
Committee intends to utilize firms selected
from this Request for Proposal to provide
documented confirmation that the facility ful-
fills the functional and performance require-
ments of the building owner and operators,
and as required by the State of Connecticut
General Statutes: Section 16a - 38k. The
commissioning process will establish and
document the owner's criteria for system
function, performance, and maintainabil-
ity, and to verify document compliance with
these criteria throughout construction, start-
up, and the initial period of operation. The
Project shall be designed to the Connecticut
High Performance Building Standards and
the Connecticut Building Standard Guidelines
Compliance Manual for High Performance
Buildings. The Project's commissioning
services shall consist of: (i) the manda-
tory requirements of Section 16a-38k-3(a)
of the Regulations of Connecticut State
Agencies, (ii) the services described in the
Compliance Manual, State of Connecticut
"Capital Projects High Performance Buildings
Guidelines", State Department of
Administrative Services, Division of
Construction Services, Office of School
Construction Grants, Supplement to the
Guidelines, (iii) shall include enhanced
commissioning services as further described
in this RFQ, (iv) shall include work required
for the Energize CT Verification Incentive
and (v) shall be performed pursuant to the
ASHRAE Guideline 0-2005 (collectively, the
"Commissioning Services).

Qualified firms are required to submit their
Proposal in accordance with the solicitation
package requirements. The firm must meet
all municipal, state and federal affirmative
action and equal employment opportunity
practices. One Original, fifteen (15) copies of
the proposal, and one electronic copy (Adobe
PDF) must be submitted

After review of all qualifications, including
fee proposals, the Farmington High School
Building Committee reserves the right to re-
ject any or all proposals, or any part thereof,
or waive defects in same, or accept any
proposal deemed to be in the best interest
of the Town of Farmington and Farmington
Public Schools.

All questions or comments regarding this
solicitation package must be submitted to
the office of the Director of School Facilities
via email at kilpatrick@fpsct.org with the
subject line: Commissioning Services RFQ.
Questions must be submitted by Friday,
November 12, 2021, at 2:00 pm.
11/6/2021 7080973

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Saturdays in
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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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function, performance, and maintainabil-
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these criteria throughout construction, start-
up, and the initial period of operation. The
Project shall be designed to the Connecticut
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Questions must be submitted by Friday,
November 12, 2021, at 2:00 pm.
11/6/2021 7080973

STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT JUVENILE MATTERS

ORDER OF NOTICE

Notice To: Kevin Kology, father of child born
to Ashley P on 1/11/12
of parts unknown.

A petition has been filed seeking:
Termination of parental rights of the above
named child(ren).

The petition, whereby the court's decision
can affect your parental rights, if any,
regarding minor child(ren) will be
heard on: 12/2/21 at 10:15am at SCJM
25 School Street, Rockville, CT 06066
Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the
hearing of this petition be given by publishing
this Order of Notice once, immediately upon
receipt, in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper
having a circulation in the town/city of Bristol
CT

Name of Judge: Hon. Dawne Westbrook
Signed: /s/ Betty Skipper
Date Signed: 11/4/21

Right to Counsel: Upon proof of inability to
pay for a lawyer, the court will make sure an
attorney is provided to you by the Chief Public
Defender. Request for an attorney should be
made immediately in person, by mail, or by
fax at the court office where your hearing is
to be held.
11/06/21 7081267

South Windsor CT Minority Opportunity

Silktown Roofing is currently soliciting SBE/
MBE/DBE subcontractors for Public Notice;
South Windsor CT-Pleasant Valley Elementary
School State Project No. 132-0033N. Trades:
carpentry, portable restrooms. Material
Supply; flatstock metal, lumber. Our bid
submits on Friday, November 12, 2021. If
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Interested parties are asked to contact us
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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

BRISTOL
Rose M.
Lewandowski-Czerna*

ENFIELD
Theresa A. Pinette

HARTFORD
Jack J. Henriques

KENSINGTON
Pamela J. Hillstrand

NEWINGTON
Jack J. Henriques

OLD SAYBROOK
Carroll J. Hughes

PLANTSVILLE
Gail Perkins

SOMERS
Theresa A. Pinette

SOUTHINGTON
Diane C. Adams*
Pascal Dellavecchia*
Pamela J. Hillstrand
Ruth N. Jewett*

STAFFORD SPRINGS
Alda F. Muzio

WEST HARTFORD
Marcia L. Woolsey

WETHERSFIELD
Thomas W. Quinn

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Henriques, Jack J.



Jack J. Henriques (born Joaquim Jose) of Newington, CT passed away Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021 at Hartford Hospital surrounded by his family. Born in Monsanto Portugal on June 13, 1946, he emigrated to America alone on a student visa, on December 14, 1958.

Jack graduated from Hartford Public High School and played half-back for the Hartford Portuguese Soccer Club. He was employed at Champlain Box Company in Hartford and eventually rose to the position of manager. Later in life he pursued his passion of cooking by attending Connecticut Culinary Institute and enjoyed cooking for family. A life-long seeker of knowledge, Jack spoke five languages and spent most of his days enjoying his vast collection of books, music, movies and documentaries.

Jack leaves behind his former wife of 24 years Linda (Neves) Henriques, sons Yuri (Heather) Henriques of Cornelia, GA, Elijah Henriques, and daughter Athena (Shawn) Mains of Newington, CT as well as grandchildren Kathryn, Nathaniel, Emily, Hannah, and Amy Henriques, and Sarah and Joshua Mains. The family would like to express their deepest appreciation for Jack's daughter Athena for the loving care she provided at the end of his life. Private services will be held at a later date.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Hillstrand, Pamela J.



Pamela "Pam" Jean Hillstrand was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend and poker player. Pam left this world unexpectedly on November 2, 2021 at the age of 69. Born April 4, 1952 to Beverly and Roy Cooper, Sr (both deceased), Pam graduated from Berlin High School in 1970 where she met her high school sweetheart, Mark Hillstrand.

Pam couldn't resist Mark's bad boy charm or his Pontiac GTO, so high school sweethearts became forever soulmates. Pam and Mark have been riding together through life for over 50 years and they are one of life's greatest love stories. They added a car seat to one of Mark's many cars when they had their little girl, Jody. Pam loved being a mom whether it was teaching Jody how to read, instilling the value of cheap white bread, or finding Jody's "collection of baggies" hidden all over the house. Pam welcomed Jody's husband, Chris Martin, into the family with open arms and they made her a Grammy to Ava Jean. Pam loved nothing more than to show off Ava's beautiful drawings and paintings.

Pam loved taking rides in Mark's Corvette to the shore to get a hot dog or to buy her beloved McDonald's fountain soda. Pam also had her weekend rituals: lunch at Bill's Pizza with her sister, Paula, on Saturdays and taking a ride with Mark to Mohegan Sun to play her lucky machine on Sundays. She knew all the latest drama on her Bravo reality TV shows and made the best brownies, banana bread, and pineapple upside down cake this world has ever seen.

Aside from Pam's immediate family, she leaves behind eight siblings: Patricia (and Kenneth) Glaser, William (and Victoria) Cooper, Roy Cooper Jr., Paula Cooper, Frances (and Timothy) Miller, Gerard "Roddie" Cooper, and Joy (and Samantha) Cooper. Pam also leaves behind 14 nieces and nephews, 10 great nieces and nephews, and her grand-dog, Princess.

A celebration of life will be held on Monday, November 8, 2021 at Berlin Memorial Funeral Home, 96 Main Street, Kensington, CT from 12:00pm- 2:00pm. In lieu of flowers, please donate to one of Pam's favorite charities, the St. Clare Food Pantry of St. Paul Catholic Parish located at 461 Alling St, Berlin, CT.

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OBITUARIES

Hughes, Carroll J.



Carroll Joseph Hughes, of Old Saybrook, CT, Block Island and Newport, RI, beloved husband of Jean Cronin for 30 years, passed away peacefully on Nov. 1, 2021 with his family by his side after a valiant and private three-year battle with leukemia. Proudly born in Bridgeport, CT on March 24, 1942, he was the Aries son and middle child of

the late John and Elizabeth Hughes, and grew up on Booth Street in his hometown of Stratford. Continuing his Bridgeport connection, Carroll received his bachelors and Master's degrees from the University of Bridgeport, then began his career in local government working as the assistant to the Mayor of Milford, Alan Jepson, later moving to Hartford where he worked in the office of Mayor Ann Uccello and Manager Eli Freedman. After his municipal service, Carroll moved on in 1972 to become the Assistant Commissioner in the newly-created Department of Environmental Protection under its first Commissioner Dan Lufkin during the Meskill Administration. He remained there until January, 1974 when he left to open his own business, which became the first independent lobbying firm in Connecticut. He was the President for 47 years of what came to be known as Hughes & Cronin Public Affairs Strategies, a lobbying and association management firm. He was joined in 1986 by his business partner and wife, Jean Cronin and in 2017 by his youngest son Sean, as well as a host of loyal staff members throughout the years. Over the past four decades, the business has represented several hundred local and national clients before the legislature, state and municipal agencies, and many of these clients are still with the firm today. Carroll was a pioneer in the lobbying industry and a driving force at the Capitol who was revered by lawmakers, state officials, staff and lobbyists alike. He served as a mentor and role model for many who admired his professionalism and ability to connect with people of all backgrounds. Carroll prided himself in meeting every single legislator during his 47 years at the Capitol and as a result he met thousands of legislators over the years, and had an uncanny ability to remember their names and backgrounds. He also loved meeting the staff and other people who gravitated to the Capitol. He thought this was the most fun part of his job, as he met interesting people he called "characters of life" who brought unique perspectives to his world. Carroll was a skilled testifier who loved speaking at legislative public hearings on behalf of his clients and he was also a brilliant strategist who could craft and execute a winning legislative plan despite insurmountable odds. He had a tireless commitment to his clients and was well known for his early morning and weekend calls. The research, planning and deliberate execution he did for each issue and each client has been instilled in Jean, Sean and all of his staff. Carroll spent many happy summer days with Jean on the beaches of Block Island, having afternoon cocktails at the Spring House and dancing dinners at Aldo's. He was an avid sailor and "clammer." He enjoyed entertaining family and friends at his BI home and was well known for his culinary creations, especially the infamous pasta salads. He reveled in his Irish heritage and was most proud of his induction into the Newport Ancient Order of the Hibernians. He loved sitting at the Hibernian Hall bar, regaling his fellow "Brothers" with his latest stories and jokes, while drinking his beloved Jameson's proclaiming "the brothers need the work." His favorite holiday was St. Patrick's Day and he had many good memories of the Newport parades, as well cherished memories of his many trips to Ireland. He was also a HUGE fan and friend of the Wolfetones, having arranged and attended several concerts for them in Connecticut and Newport, and even traveled to Ireland to see them. Carroll was a voracious reader and was known for passing good books along to family and friends. He was an incredible history buff who traveled extensively and enjoyed planning epic trips with Jean and Sean, especially to the historic sites of Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge and the Civil War Battlefields. While he drove along his carefully mapped route, he would have Jean read the highlighted facts and tidbits in the multiple travel books he used to research the trip, giving Sean a full blown history lesson in the back seat. Carroll was a diehard Red Sox fan who rarely missed watching a game, regardless of the status of their season. One of his favorite birthday gifts from Jean was a "behind-the-scenes" tour of Fenway Park, complete with a visit to the press box, dugout, players' lounge and trip inside the Green Monster, after proudly posing with the World Series trophies and meeting Jackie Bradley, Jr. This was the ultimate absolution for a long time Red Sox fan. Carroll was a proud and dedicated father and in addition to his wife, he is survived by his loving children, Carroll Jr. (CJ) and wife Misty of Hudson, NY and Christopher and partner Valerie DeLuca of New York City, his son Josh and wife Susanna of West Hartford, his loving daughter Jessica Karnes and husband Michael of Nashville, TN and youngest son Sean, a principal with Hughes & Cronin, and his fiancé Alyssa Pereira of Waterford. He leaves his grandchildren Astrid, Sander, Oliver and Benjamin Hughes and Harrison Karnes, his in-laws James and Virginia Cronin of Avon, CT, his sister Donna Schreiber and husband Charlie of Plano, TX, his sister-in-laws Anne Cronin and husband Mark Bussell of New York City, Pat Cronin of East Lyme and Margaret Hayes and husband Stephen of Avon, CT and his brother in-laws Richard Myers of St. Petersburg, FL, Michael Cronin of Avon, Stephen Cronin of West Hartford, Rev. Joseph Cronin of Southington and James Cronin and wife Noreen of Fairfield. He also leaves many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was pre-deceased by his brother Jack and his brother-in-law Fishel Liberman. Finally, the family would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Haldas, Heidi and the tremendous nurses and staff at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Center at Waterford for their wonderful treatment, care and compassion for Carroll over these past few years. We are grateful for your efforts, which helped to strengthen his body to match his amazing will and provide him with more precious time to be with family and friends. Carroll loved Irish sayings and the wisdom they imparted. "May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you are going, and the insight to know when you've gone too far." Slan dear Carroll, till we meet again.

Friends may call on Monday, November 8, 2021 from 4-8 p.m. at the Swan Funeral Home, 1224 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook. A Christian Mass to celebrate Carroll's life will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 10 a.m. at St. John's Church, 161 Main Street, Old Saybrook, followed by his burial at Riverside Cemetery in Old Saybrook. Mourners are asked to go directly to the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Carroll's name to one of his favorite charities: The Hundred Club of Connecticut, P.O. Box 419, Glastonbury, CT 06033; The Block Island Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, Block Island, RI. 02807; or the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Connecticut, 3 Landmark Square, Stamford, CT 06901. To leave online condolences, please visit www.swanfuneralhomeold-saybrook.com

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Muzio, Alda F.



Alda F. Muzio, 102, of Enfield, CT, and formerly of Stafford Springs, CT, wife of the late Aldo Muzio, passed away on Thursday, November 4, 2021, one day shy of her 103rd birthday. Alda was born in Salisbury, CT, daughter of the late John and Santina (Vercellini) Ghidinelli. In her younger years, she enjoyed braiding rugs and quilting.

She also enjoyed playing cards with friends, and was a wonderful cook. Above all, she loved her family and enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Alda is survived by her two children, Thomas Muzio and his wife Ann, and Jacqueline Morse and her husband Lee; two grandchildren, Beth Gallison and her husband Scott, and Rick Hartenstein, Jr. and his wife Amy; three great grandchildren, Rachel, Sarah, and Katie; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her three brothers, Thomas, Aldo, and John Ghidinelli; and two sisters, Jennie Rabideau and Rose Schwarz. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 12 Noon at St. Edward Church, 55 High St., Stafford Springs, CT. Burial will follow in St. Edward Cemetery, Stafford Springs, CT. The family would like to send their sincere thanks and appreciation to the Little Sisters and staff at St. Joseph's Residence for all of the outstanding care and support that was given to Alda while she was there. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Joseph's Residence, 1395 Enfield St., Enfield, CT 06082. Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., Stafford Springs, CT, has care of the arrangements. To leave a condolence online for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneral-home.com

Introvigne
Funeral Home, Inc.

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Perkins, Gail (Schwartz)



Gail Schwartz Perkins, 52, of Plantsville, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, July 7, 2021. Gail grew up in Plantsville and graduated from Southington High School in 1987. She enjoyed a full-time career at the Central CT Sports Medicine Center in Berlin until the birth of her son, Mark Frederick, for whom she was a devoted mom. Gail is predeceased by her husband, Mark A. Perkins, and her parents, Ruth and Frederick Schwartz. Along with her son Mark, she's also survived by her sister Lori and nephew Nate, her mother-in-law Rosalie, and several cousins. A private memorial was held in Gail's honor at Rose Hill Memorial Park, Rocky Hill.

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Pinette, Theresa A



Theresa A. Pinette, 78 of Somers, beloved wife of Michael J. Pinette, passed away on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at home with her family by her side. She was born on June 4, 1943 in Hartford to the late Anthony and Maria (Genereux) Castellassi. She retired as an inspector from ESSCO Tools.

She was very creative crafter, enjoyed quilting, hunting for antiques and spending time with family and friends, especially at Christmas. Besides her husband, she is survived by her son; Larry Batignani, Jr., her sisters; Sharon Zanetti and her husband Harold and Gail Kamm and her husband Donald and several nieces and nephews. Theresa was predeceased by her sister Claire Deferio. All services will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to The American Cancer Society, PO Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK. 73123. Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels is handling arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.leettestevens.com

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QUINN, Thomas W.



Thomas W. Quinn, age 78, beloved husband of Donna (Laraia) Quinn, of Wethersfield, passed away on Thursday, November 4, 2021. Thomas was born in Hartford and was son to the late Charles and Dorothy (Fisk) Quinn. He was a graduate of Bulkeley High School, class of 1961 and went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree from Central Connecticut

State College. He also proudly served in the Army Reserves. Thomas retired from the Aetna Insurance Company after many years of working as a Programmer. Thomas will be remembered for his gentle disposition, his quiet sense of humor and his willingness to listen. He was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather who also enjoyed spending time with his large extended family, at the beach and Saturday night dinners. He was a season ticket holder to the Hartford Whalers, in addition he enjoyed watching the UConn Girls Basketball with Donna.

In addition to his beloved wife, he is survived and will be dearly missed by his children; Jessica (Benjamin) Cutone of Southborough, MA and Allison (Francisco) Colon of Bristol, his seven cherished grandchildren; Jenna, Madisyn, Elijah, Kylie, Noah, Sammy and Benjamin and precious great granddaughter; Vyvianna Colon, a brother; Robert (Paula) Quinn and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Thomas was predeceased by his grandson Isaiah Thomas Quinn, and his sister, Cheryl Quinn.

The family will receive relatives and friends on Sunday, November 7th from 4 to 6 p.m. at the D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, 277 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Monday, November 8th, at 10 a.m. at the Church of Incarnation, 544 Prospect Street, Wethersfield. Burial will immediately follow at Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford. Masks are required.

For online expressions to the family, please visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com.



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OBITUARIES

Woolsey, Marcia L. (Dinerstein)

Marcia Woolsey, 80, of West Hartford died peacefully at home with her family at her side. She was born in Springfield Massachusetts to the late Sarah and Edward Dinerstein but lived in Connecticut for more than the past 50 years. Marcia was active in West Hartford politics and had been the Democratic Party's Chairperson of the Town's First District. She also had been elected as the Democratic Register of Voter for West Hartford.

Marcia was predeceased by her brother (Norman Dinerstein) and her two sisters (Charlotte Kapilof and Marilyn Eisner) and was survived by her loving husband and son (Charles Woolsey and Thomas Woolsey, respectively, both of West Hartford). She was also a proud aunt of a number of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and- great nephews who she was very close to and loved very much.

A private burial with a future, to be determined, memorial service will take place. Funeral arrangements are being provided by Hebrew Funeral Association Incorporated, West Hartford.

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10 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT NEARLY EVERYTHING

A Collection of Fascinating Historical, Scientific and Cultural Trivia about PEOPLE, PLACES and THINGS

MARK JACOB & STEPHAN BENZKOFER

Chicago Tribune

FACT #341

The folks who brought us Reddi-wip whipped cream had another brainstorm in the 1960s: Reddi-Bacon.

10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything

contains a plethora of tidbits and trivia that will appeal to everyone, from history buffs to sports fans to foodies. From lighthearted topics such as misspellings and extreme eating, to serious subjects such as WWII and prison, this book leaves readers brighter and wittier than ever before.

FACT #84: A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

FACT #178 : Genuophobia is the fear of knees.

FACT #238: Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.

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CONNECTICUT

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Help is available for rising heating costs

State programs aid customers with high bills amid price hikes

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — State regulators Friday approved higher electricity prices for Eversource Energy and United Illuminating — the latest jolt for consumers as the winter chill settles in across Connecticut. Earlier this week, Eversource warned customers that beginning this month natural gas heating

prices could jump 14%, costing an average \$30 a month more than last year as global energy markets are roiled by post-pandemic demand hikes, forecasts of a cold winter and supply problems in Europe. The U.S. Energy Information Administration has also forecast that average U.S. household spending for all major home heating fuels will increase significantly this winter primarily because of higher expected fuel costs and increased energy use in what's expected to be a colder winter. Average increases vary by fuel, region and weather assumptions, the agency said. Compared with

last winter, the government forecasts that propane spending will rise by 54%, heating oil by 43%, natural gas by 30% and electricity by 6%. Which all means consumers may be looking for some help in paying the bills this winter. Here are some options: ■ The state has expanded electric-utility-bill assistance. UniteCT, which is administered by the Connecticut Department of Housing, provides financial help for rents and utility bills for those affected by COVID-19. United CT can be reached online or at 844-864-8328.

■ EnergizeCT provides access to residents and businesses for financial incentives, including home-energy audits and insulation and heat pumps. Energize CT can be reached online or at 877-947-3873 ■ The state Public Utilities Regulatory Authority has directed all regulated electric, gas and water utilities to offer COVID-19 payment plans that residential and nonresidential customers are eligible to enroll in through February 2022. Plans require no initial or down payment or demonstration of financial need and can be up to 24 months long.

■ The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program is administered by the Connecticut Department of Social Services and provides winter heating-cost assistance to households depending on income. Applications can be made via community actions agencies in your area. At a press conference Friday, Gov. Ned Lamont urged Connecticut residents who face rising heating and electricity costs this winter to seek out government-aid programs. Under the electric rate hikes

Turn to Heating, Page 2

STATE OPEN CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING



Runners in the State Open girls cross country championship pass through Wickham Park with the Hartford skyline in the background. Rachel St. Germain, of Somers, won the race with a time of 18:02. **STORY, SPORTS, PAGE 1**

MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Absentee ballots favored Dems

Connecticut election data reflects trend seen nationwide

By Kasturi Pananjady and Dave Altimari
CT Mirror

A year after Donald Trump lost the presidential election, absentee ballot voting remains a partisan phenomenon in Connecticut: Approximately 15% of votes received by Democratic candidates in Tuesday's municipal elections were via absentee ballot, as opposed to 7% of votes received by Republicans, a CT Mirror analysis of provisional data from the Office of the Secretary of the State shows. The former president repeatedly called into question the integrity of voting by mail. In Connecticut, as in other parts of the country, Democrats embraced absentee ballot voting in greater numbers than Republicans did in the last presidential election and in the primaries leading up to it. This was the second year that Connecticut allowed all voters to cast absentee ballots because of the coronavirus pandemic, following the passage of a temporary law in May. No-excuse absentee ballot voting cannot be made permanent without amending the state Constitution, and the measure failed to garner a supermajority in the last legislative session in the face of opposition from Republicans. The legislature will consider the proposal again in 2022, and if it passes with a simple majority, voters will be able to vote on a ballot question on no-excuse absentee voting. In 2020, the Secretary of the State's office mailed absentee ballot applications to all registered voters in Connecticut but did not do so in the municipal election this year. Some political campaigns took it upon themselves to contact

Turn to Ballots, Page 2

Philip Morris move elevates Stamford

City official says more companies are looking to relocate there after city lands tobacco giant

By Kenneth R. Gosselin
Hartford Courant

Stamford's status as the Connecticut city with the fastest-growing population has gotten another boost now that Philip Morris International has chosen it for its new headquarters. The tobacco giant will bring with it 200 jobs from New York City. And a top city official said Friday that more companies are looking at relocating to Stamford,

including one that could bring with it 450 jobs. Thomas Madden, Stamford's director of economic development, declined to name the company or its industry. But Madden noted that the state and AdvanceCT, a public-private partnership promoting economic development, are involved in the deal. "They are already a very successful company, but they are looking to re-headquarter back

Turn to Stamford, Page 2



The ex-UBS headquarters, at 677 Washington Blvd. in Stamford will become Philip Morris' new headquarters. The company will bring with it 200 jobs when it moves from New York City. **CONWAY + PARTNERS/ COURTESY**

Arrest made in hit-and-run that killed UConn student

Driver reportedly confessed at Suffield Police Department

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

Police have made an arrest in the hit-and-run death of a UConn student in Suffield last month. Frederick Seymour, 58, of Poplar Street in Windsor Locks is in custody on \$750,000 bail after being charged with evading responsibility and operating a motor vehicle while under suspension, police said Friday. He is scheduled to appear in court Monday. Meghan Voisine, 20, of Suffield was fatally struck about 10:30 p.m. on Oct. 23 at the intersection of Thrall Avenue and Route 159, police said. She was with friends

and crossing the street at the time, Police Chief Richard Brown said. Seymour walked into the Suffield Police Department early Friday morning and confessed as police were getting ready to get the warrant for his arrest signed, Brown said. He said Seymour has an "extensive" history of traffic violations, but he didn't know the details. In addition to his record, the chief said, "There is substantial evidence that this is the person that's responsible." There may be more charges filed against Seymour, he said. "This case isn't by any means done or closed because of the arrest," the chief said. "We're doing some further investigation." Brown said Seymour had borrowed the vehicle he was driving the night of the collision.

When the owners saw a Facebook post with the police department's description of the Jeep-like car that was involved, they called Suffield police. "They saw the post and they called," Brown said. "They did the right thing. They did the responsible thing. There are some good people left in the world. This isn't the first time Seymour was charged with driving with a suspended license. He was arrested on the charge on Dec. 27, 2019, according to court records, and convicted this year. At his Sept. 14 sentencing, Seymour got an unconditional discharge, which means he was released without imprisonment, probation supervision or conditions.

Turn to Crash, Page 2

State police sergeant accused in drunken driving crash resigns

McDonald faces new internal investigation over payroll system

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

A state police sergeant found guilty of causing an off-duty crash that injured two women in Southbury two years ago, allegedly while driving drunk, has resigned from the Connecticut State Police after internal affairs investigators opened a second probe of his handling of an in-house payroll system. John McDonald had been working on the software system while on administrative assignment,

with his police powers suspended, since the Sept. 25, 2019, crash, said Brian Foley, administrative assistant to the commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. His resignation, effective Thursday, followed his May court sentencing in the drunken driving case and the start of an internal affairs investigation of the crash. It also followed the start of a second internal affairs investigation "regarding his truthfulness and integrity around management of the Kronos software system," Foley said Friday. Foley said he could not elaborate but said the allegations against McDonald are not financial in nature.

Turn to Police, Page 2

CONNECTICUT

Stamford

from Page 1

to the Northeast,” Madden said Friday. “It looks very promising. We’re very close.”

In June, Philip Morris announced that it would move its headquarters from Park Avenue, New York City, to Fairfield County, but it hadn’t landed on a location. This week, it was announced that the company that manufactures six of the top 15 cigarette brands will lease more than 70,000 square feet of office space in the former UBS tower on Washington Boulevard.

Philip Morris has signed a 12-year lease that encompasses the entire 11th and 12th floors of the 13-story office tower, one of three buildings on a 12-acre complex. The company plans to occupy the new space in late 2022.

Philip Morris declined to comment on the lease Friday.

The relocation of Philip Morris was notable because the state did not offer any financial incentives and it was a reversal of major corporate headquarters moving out of state. Those included General Electric and Raytheon, the former United Technologies Corp.

The announcement of the relocation came with skepticism that Philip Morris chose Connecticut because it offered the tobacco giant access to innovation and life sciences that would eventually help the company become “smoke-free.”

For Stamford, the Philip Morris lease is significant because it means that the UBS office tower, which has stood vacant for several years, will now be 95 percent occupied. The sprawling complex, once touted as the largest trad-



Gov. Ned Lamont and Jacek Olczak, CEO of Philip Morris International, at the June announcement of the move. **FILE**

ing floor in the world, lost hundreds of brokers and traders after the financial crisis in late 2000s.

The latest count by the U.S. Census showed that Stamford’s population is expanding faster than any other Connecticut city and that it has eclipsed New Haven as the second-largest city behind Bridgeport.

In the last eight years, Stamford has added 10,000 rental units, with another 1,600 in construction and an additional 7,000 on the drawing board. The apartments are in and around the city’s downtown area.

“We cannot build these apartments fast enough; they lease up right away,” Madden said.

Even so, Stamford — like much of Fairfield County — is struggling with high office-vacancy rates. According to a report from commercial real estate broker Cushman & Wakefield, a third of downtown Stamford’s office space was vacant as of June 30. That’s

about the same as Fairfield as a whole, according to the report.

Madden said some of that is tied to downsizing by companies coming out of the pandemic. Employers need less space as they adopt hybrid workplaces, with employees’ time divided between home and the workplace.

But the downsizing started even before COVID-19, as companies reduced how much space was being set aside for each employee. Space was cut drastically from about 250 square feet to as little as 75 square feet.

The vacancy rates mask that more workers are occupying smaller spaces. For instance, Madden said, one company now has almost 1,000 workers in space where the previous tenant had 400.

For decades, Stamford has been attractive to those who wanted to live in the Stamford and Fairfield County suburbs. But the opposite is also now true:

There are as many people who live in New York City but commute to work in lower Fairfield County.

Leases like the one with Philip Morris combined with a growing population bodes well for future leases, Madden said.

“What they really love is the fact that we have a workforce here with all these apartments going up,” Madden said. “And with apartments, there is a young workforce that has moved in and is willing to start at a company, and that is huge.”

“The companies have gone from the workforce chasing them,” Madden said, “to them chasing the workforce, and the companies are moving to areas where there is a workforce. So as we keep building out the housing and providing the opportunities to live in Stamford, that’s only going to help us attract additional companies to come in.”

Contact Kenneth R. Gosselin at kgosselin@courant.com.

Police

from Page 1

McDonald, who was 37 at the time of his DUI arrest, pleaded no contest May 6 in Superior Court in Middletown to charges of second-degree reckless endangerment, a Class B misdemeanor, and was given a suspended, six-month jail sentence followed by two years of probation, court records show. With a no-contest, or nolo contendere, plea, the defendant does not admit guilt but opts not to contest the charges.

McDonald was originally charged with second-degree assault with a motor vehicle — a Class D felony, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence, reckless driving and failure to obey a stop sign.

McDonald had been at a retirement party for a fellow trooper at the Black Hog Brewing Co. in Oxford the night of the crash. Surveillance video from the brewery showed him drinking “what

appears to be at least eight alcoholic beverages” between 2:19 and 5:13 p.m., according to the warrant for his arrest.

The footage also showed him swaying, knocking over a drink and almost walking into a table before leaving, it said.

About 7:30 p.m., McDonald drove through a stop sign at Route 188 and Airport Road, crashing into and destroying a Nissan Altima. His unmarked police car also was totaled, the warrant said. (State troopers take their police cars home).

Southbury officers reported seeing McDonald sway and stumble in the road, the warrant said.

One of the women in the other car suffered wrist and forearm fractures, and the other had extensive bruising and an eye injury, according to their lawyer.

McDonald was taken to the hospital but left without being treated.

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.



An analysis of Tuesday’s municipal elections shows that 15% of votes for Democrats came via absentee ballots, compared to 7% for Republicans. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

Ballots

from Page 1

voters about the option.

Kevin Hill, an incumbent Democratic candidate for town council in Wethersfield, said that Democrats in Wethersfield concentrated their efforts on mailing absentee ballot applications to party members to encourage them to vote.

Hill said the plan seemed to work because the town got nearly 1,000 absentee ballots mailed in, and about 70% of them were Democrats.

“When you figure in a municipal election about 7,000 people vote overall —

that is a pretty big number that could easily swing a very close race,” Hill said. “There’s definitely been seats decided by less than 500 votes, so it was worth the expense and the effort to get them in the mail.”

In general, while Democrats are more likely to reap the rewards of absentee ballot voting, it doesn’t necessarily follow that the lack of an absentee ballot option would depress turnout to their disadvantage, said Greg Huber, professor of political science at Yale University.

In other words, absentee ballot voting doesn’t necessarily increase turnout and confer a partisan advantage.

Crash

from Page 1

Seymour was given the same sentence, plus a suspended, six-month jail term, on the same day for failure to appear in court, the records show. Why his license was suspended or what charges he failed to appear on weren’t clear Friday afternoon.

A junior studying marketing, Voisine was a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority and the Women in Business student organization. She began studying at UConn in the fall of 2020 after transferring from Seton Hall University, said

Stephanie Reitz, UConn spokeswoman.

In her obituary, her family described Voisine as fun-loving and kind, a fashion plate with many friends.

She brought joy, laughter and compassion to all of her relationships with families and friends, it said, and “she felt deeply in her heart when someone else was hurting and tried to be there for them.”

“She was a bright comet that streaked through our lives, and one that was extinguished way too early,” the obit said.

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Heating

from Page 1

approved Friday, on average Eversource residential customers who use 700 kilowatt hours of power a month will pay about \$31 more, an increase of 21 percent over their current monthly bills, the utility said. Bills will depend on how much energy is used, the rate category and weather conditions.

A typical UI customer using 700 kilowatt hours of power each month could pay about \$19 more each month on the supply portion of the bill.

Lamont Friday brought together members of his energy and social-services teams at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection offices in Hartford to talk up what his administration is doing to at least slow the rise in energy prices and highlight government-aid programs.

The governor cited his push for greater offshore wind power to reduce Connecticut’s reliance on fossil fuels and his 2019



Connecticut consumers received another jolt ahead of winter as state regulators Friday approved higher electricity prices for Eversource Energy and United Illuminating. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

deal to keep open the Millstone Power Station, the state’s sole nuclear power plant.

“Almost three years ago, the first thing we were confronted with was Millstone tried to pull the plug,” Lamont said at a presenta-

tion at the Hartford offices of the DEEP. “We decided to make a deal with Millstone over many years at a fixed price.”

Legislation enacted in 2019 required Eversource and United Illuminating to buy power from Millstone

as it faced stiff competition with natural gas that fell in price and became an increasingly attractive energy source.

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CONNECTICUT

Cameras, social media help ID murder suspect

Review of chats on slain Hartford rapper’s phone leads to teenager’s arrest

By Zach Murdock
Hartford Courant

An up-and-coming Hartford teen rapper found shot to death just two blocks from his North End home this summer was killed when an apparent plan to rob him of marijuana went disastrously wrong, new court records reveal.

Juan Bautista Garcia, the 17-year-old rapper who performed as YNT Juan, was found shot in the head in a Mercedes sedan on Martin Street one afternoon in early August.

The entire shooting incident was captured on city and private surveillance cameras nearby, and detectives used social media and DNA analysis to identify a teen suspect despite half-hearted attempts to conceal his identity using a pseudonym, according to an arrest warrant affidavit released this week.

Travis Johnson, 19, was arrested this week and charged with

murder and conspiracy to commit murder. He was arraigned Thursday in Superior Court in Hartford, where a judge increased his bond to \$3 million and he remains in custody.

Garcia was shot just after 5:30 p.m. Aug. 8 outside 158 Martin St. and was found dead when police arrived moments later after an alert on the city’s ShotSpotter gunshot detection system, court records show.

Footage obtained from several surveillance cameras in the area revealed two men walked from the lot of 161 Martin St. to meet Garcia, one of whom got into the front passenger side of his car, just before the shooting, records show.

The person in the front passenger seat abruptly leaves the vehicle moments later holding a firearm and fires one shot through the rear window of the Mercedes before both men run back to 161 Martin St. and speed away in a black Chevy Cobalt, the videos show.

The Mercedes rolled forward several feet and came to a rest, just as it was found when police arrived a few moments later.

The Cobalt was found the next morning — engulfed in flames — apparently burned intentionally, records show.

A review of Garcia’s iPhone with his family’s help revealed he had a brief Snapchat conversation with an account using the display name “Eddie Griffin” just before his death. The account user had messaged Garcia “need 2,” slang for buying drugs, and “161 Martin,” records show.

A quick social media search revealed a local Facebook account using the name “Eddie Griffin” that included photos of a man matching both Johnson and the man in the security camera footage seen firing into Garcia’s car. At least one of the photos of Johnson on that profile even included the same distinctive neon shoes the shooter wore when Garcia was shot.

Even though both accounts appeared under the display name “Eddie Griffin,” the actual usernames for both accounts were the same — johnsontravis35, police found.

Johnson himself even linked the accounts in a public April 2020 post on the Eddie Griffin Facebook

page that read in part “my snap lit add me” followed by “johnsontravis35 everyone add it,” according to the affidavit.

In October, analysts also concluded Johnson’s DNA was present in samples taken from the front passenger seat area of Garcia’s car shortly after the murder.

An arrest warrant charging Johnson with murder was issued a few days later and he was finally arrested Wednesday morning when members of the U.S. Marshals Violent Fugitive Task Force and Hartford detectives took him into custody without incident, police said.

Johnson’s case will be screened for the court’s Part A docket, where the most serious cases are heard, and he is scheduled to return Nov. 18 to court.

Garcia was a rising rap artist with tens of thousands of followers on his social media platforms and a popular new music video released online just a week before his death. Friends remembered him at the time as a driven young man whose life was cut short just as he was on the verge of a profes-

sional music career.

A memorial to Garcia has been maintained outside his home at 89 Martin St. ever since his death, with candles lit every day in his memory and frequent visits from friends and fans.

The memorial itself was scarred in late September when Garcia’s friend and 16-year-old Weaver High School freshman Waldemar Santiago was gunned down near the candles in an apparent drive-by shooting. An investigation into Santiago’s death is ongoing, but no arrests have been made as of Friday and police have not said whether the two teens’ killings are connected in any way.

The capital city has recorded 31 murders so far this year and is on pace to record one of its deadliest years in decades. The city already is fast approaching the recent highs of 32 murders in all of 2015 and 33 murders in all of 2009 — with almost two full months still left on the calendar and as murders continue to spike in cities large and small across the country.

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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Weekly positivity rate steady at 1.82%

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

Connecticut’s weekly COVID-19 positivity rate remained steadily below 2% and hospitalizations fell notably Friday. The state’s COVID-19 metrics, though slightly uneven in recent days, have been largely flat since early October.

Experts say it remains unclear whether the state will see a spike in cases and hospitalizations toward the end of the year, as a result of holiday gatherings and colder weather pushing people indoors.

Cases, positivity rate

Connecticut on Friday reported 320 new COVID-19 cases out of 24,051 tests administered, for a daily positivity rate of 1.33%, a notable decrease from Thursday’s rate of 2.3%. The state’s weekly positivity rate now stands at 1.82%, largely unchanged from the previous day.

As of Friday, Windham and New London counties continued to record “high” levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Hartford, New Haven, Middlesex, Litchfield and Tolland Counties had “substantial” levels of transmission, while Fairfield had only “moderate” transmission, meaning that residents there are not advised to wear masks indoors.

Hospitalizations

Connecticut reported 197 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 on Thursday, a decrease of 12 individuals since Thursday.

Hospital officials say the vast majority of those hospitalized with serious COVID-19 symptoms are unvaccinated.

Deaths

Connecticut reported on Thursday 25 additional COVID-19 deaths over the past week, bringing its total during the pandemic to 8,776.

The United States has now recorded 752,091 deaths related to COVID-19, according to the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center.

Vaccinations

As of Friday, 79.5% of all Connecticut residents and 91.3% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 70.9% of all residents and 81.4% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC. Additionally, 12.1% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents have received a booster dose.

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Man wounded in Hartford’s fourth shooting of the week

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

Hartford police say they are investigating an overnight shooting near the West Hartford line. It was the city’s fourth shooting this week.

ShotSpotter alerted police to the gunfire in the area of 19 Dorothy St., near Park Street, about 2:15 a.m., and officers found a man with a gunshot wound at 14-16 Dorothy. The man was taken to the hospital. He is expected to survive.

The Major Crimes and Crime Scene divisions are investigating. Anyone with information

is asked to call the Hartford police tip line at 860-722-8477 (TIPS).

The wounded man is the fourth shooting victim this week, the third who survived.

Shortly before 1 a.m. Monday, Erick Rodriguez, 36, was fatally shot on Bushnell Street, and later that day, about 3:15 p.m., a 19-year-old man was shot on Zion St., police said.

And shortly before 7 a.m. Tuesday, a man in his 30s was wounded in a shooting on Whitmore Street.

The man shot on Dorothy Street is the 144th survivor of gunfire in Hartford this year,

according to police statistics. The number of shooting victims has now surpassed the number in all of 2018 and in all of 2019 — each of which had 143 gunshot victims.

But the number of nonfatal shooting victims in 2021 still lags far behind those in 2020, which reached 225.

Rodriguez’s fatal shooting is the 31st homicide city police are investigating this year, putting Hartford on track to have one of its deadliest years in decades.

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

Woman shot during drive-by in Middletown, police say

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

A woman was wounded by gunfire during a drive-by shooting in Middletown Wednesday evening, police said.

Ashley Iguina, 23, was driving west on Washington Street, near No. 53, about 7:10 p.m. when a dark sedan pulled up alongside

her vehicle, they said. The front seat passenger of the car reached out the window and fired about three rounds into her vehicle, wounding her in the leg and the back, and the car took off. She did not recognize the car or the shooter.

Her passenger flagged down a nearby ambulance, and she was treated immediately, police

said.

Police continue to investigate the shooting. Anyone who has information about it is asked to call Det. Daniel Spedding of the Major Investigations Unit at 860-638-4153.

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CELEBRITIES

Johnson vows no real guns on his sets

From news services

After the “Rust” shooting, Dwayne Johnson won’t be messing with any real guns moving forward — at least not when he’s working.

“Any movie ... that Seven Bucks does with any studio, the rule is we’re not going to use real guns. That’s it,” he said recently about his company Seven Bucks Productions.

Costs, he said, won’t be an issue.

“We’re going to switch over to rubber guns, and we’re going to take care of it in post (production),” he said. “We’re not going to worry about the dollars; we won’t worry about what it costs.”

Johnson’s pledge comes in the wake of Halyna Hutchins’ Oct. 21 death. The cinematographer was pronounced dead at a New Mexico hospital after being shot during a rehearsal on the low-budget movie “Rust.” An investigation is focusing on how a live round or rounds made it onto the movie set and into the gun that was handed to star Alec Baldwin, who discharged the weapon.

Johnson said he was heartbroken over what happened. His company’s decision to leave real guns behind came several hours after he heard the news, he said.

“(W)hen something like this happens is focusing on how a live round or rounds made it onto the movie set and into the gun that was handed to star Alec Baldwin, who discharged the weapon. Johnson said he was heartbroken over what happened. His company’s decision to leave real guns behind came several hours after he heard the news, he said.

Grande, Erivo to star in ‘Wicked’ film: Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo will portray Glinda and Elphaba, respectively, in Universal’s big-screen adaptation of



Dwayne Johnson, who is seen Wednesday, says his company will switch to rubber guns on film sets. **AMY SUSSMAN/GETTY**

the Tony-winning musical “Wicked” helmed by “In the Heights” director Jon M. Chu. He has been attached to the project since February, and casting rumors have been swirling for months.

The stars announced their castings in Instagram posts on Thursday.

“Dear Cynthia, honored doesn’t even begin to cover it. I cannot wait to hug you. See you in Oz,” Grande wrote in a message to Erivo, sent with a pink and green floral arrangement (the signature colors of Glinda and Elphaba).

A prequel to “The Wizard of Oz,” “Wicked” tells the story of everything leading up to Dorothy’s arrival in Oz.

Actor Blair dies: Entertainer Lionel Blair, 92, who taught himself to dance by watching Fred Astaire movies and became a staple on British stage and television for decades, has

died. Blair’s agent said he died Thursday. No cause of death was given.

Born Lionel Henry Ogus, he performed as a dancer, worked as a choreographer and was a prominent presence on TV variety and game shows during the 1960s, ’70s and ’80s. He made several film appearances, including as a choreographer in the Beatles’ 1964 caper “A Hard Day’s Night.”

Fellow entertainers remembered Blair as an irrepressible, upbeat presence both onstage and off.

Nov. 6 birthdays: Actor June Squibb is 92. Actor Sally Field is 75. Journalist Catherine Crier is 67. Journalist Maria Shriver is 66. Singer Corey Glover is 57. Actor Peter DeLuise is 55. Actor Ethan Hawke is 51. Actor Thandiwe Newton is 49. Actor Rebecca Romijn is 49. Actor Taryn Manning is 43. Actor Patina Miller is 37. Actor Emma Stone is 33.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Faraway wedding in Belize won’t be a breeze

Dear Amy: Our daughter (age 31) is getting married for the first time to her long-time boyfriend. Parents of the couple are contributing \$10,000 each to the wedding.

We were expecting a local wedding where friends and family from all over the United States would be able to attend.

The couple looked into various venues and could not locate one to their liking. They have since decided to hold the wedding at a fancy resort in Belize! Belize!

They have related to us that it would be cheaper for them to have the wedding there, rather than pay for a local venue.

My wife and I are in our upper 60s and in poor health. We cannot imagine going to Belize. We have shared our reservations about going, but are walking a fine line, as our daughter can become quite volatile when she is challenged.

Going would require us to spend at least another \$5,000 for flights, food, lodging, boarding of dogs, etc. If we mention anything about the cost, I am sure our daughter would offer to pay for us, which is not what we want.

We have resigned ourselves to go but are not happy about it.

No one from my side or my wife’s side of the family would attend. Other than the two sets of parents, I doubt if anyone else would attend.

We would gladly give them the additional money we would spend if they would have a local wedding, and then honeymoon in Belize.

What to do?

— Exhausted Dad

Dear Dad: Couples sometimes plan destination weddings when they become overwhelmed by the thought of a large local wedding and its attendant hassles.

My take on this is that it seems as if your daughter and her fiancé are basically trying to limit the guest list.

You might ask your daughter and her fiancé if they would be willing to get legally married in a small private local wedding — perhaps at the courthouse — so that you and other health-compromised elders could witness it and throw them a small party afterward, and then send them on their way to enjoy their planned festivities with any other attendees who might be able to make the trip to Belize.

This idea may make your daughter unhappy. She will interpret this as you trying to control her special day. Ultimately, the wedding should be about the couple.

Dear Amy: I have been dating “Brian” for over a year.

My niece came to visit me. She and I decided to go out to a sports bar and play games and eat.

I invited Brian to meet up and join us, and he did.

When the check came, I picked it up and took my card out. Brian offered me \$20 to help cover it. I took his \$20 and thanked him.

He texted me later, saying that was inconsiderate of me to take it.

He said that if he invited me to join him and his niece, then he would have paid the entire bill.

I don’t get what I was

supposed to do.

I have paid the entire check for us several times. Brian actually wants the \$20 back!

Am I in the wrong? Am I the cheap one for taking the money?

— Who’s Cheap?

Dear Who’s Cheap?: I’m not sure if “Brian” is cheap, but he is definitely passive-aggressive.

His gesture was not sincere — and he expected you to realize that and refuse his money.

When you didn’t read his mind correctly, he accused you of being inconsiderate.

If Brian had joined you, not consumed any food or drink, and offered his \$20 as a generous gesture, you should have thanked him and told him, “Oh no, I’ve got this.” Definitely give his \$20 back. After that, you’ll have to decide how revealing of his character this whole episode has been.

Dear Amy: Like “Decluttered,” my family grew weary of material gifts we did not need, so I suggested to donate the same money (per person) to a charity each Christmas. We have been doing that for 20 years.

Decluttered could ask the kids to pick a charity to donate to, and suggest relatives make a small donation to the child’s special cause in lieu of material gifts.

— Brian, in Windsor

Dear Brian: I love this idea.

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MUSIC REVIEWS

Sheeran finds domestic bliss; Plush’s debut is searing hot

Huge things have happened to Ed Sheeran since his last solo album — marriage, loss, fatherhood. They’re all on the new collection “Equals,” an album that sweetly sounds like a man who now has all he needs.

“I have grown up/I am a father now/ Everything has changed/ But I am still the same somehow,” Sheeran sings on the revealing opening song, “Tides.” Don’t believe it: He has changed.

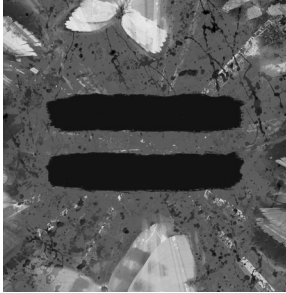
Gone is the heartbreak and bitterness that gave a sly edge to songs on previous albums. Gone is much of the insecurity that made Sheeran so relatable. That guy you imagined down at the pub with his mates enjoying a pint and a packet of crisps is now home, shutting out the world.

The bulk of “Equals” are love songs to his wife, Cherry Seaborn, like the unabashedly romantic “First Times,” when he sings: “The greatest thing that I have achieved/ Is four little words, down on one knee.”

The album is almost like a scrapbook looking back at their private moments: sleeping on the beach, red wine shared in Brooklyn, the time the car stalled in the snow. For Sheeran, his business — even playing in front of 80,000 people — doesn’t have the same thrill.

Sheeran veers into sappy with “The Joker and the Queen,” “Overpass Graffiti” and “Love in Slow Motion,” destined for adult contemporary charts. If you liked his previous hit “Perfect,” this is more of the same. There are thick storms of violins and cellos throughout.

Their child — daughter Lyra, born in August 2020 — inspired the lullaby



‘Equals’
Ed Sheeran (Atlantic Records)

“Sandman,” where dad sings, “Loving you is easy, but life will not always be.” The song “Visiting Hours” mourns a friend’s passing, just as “Supermarket Flowers” on his last album “Divide” was a lovely farewell to a grandparent.

But “Equals” doesn’t stray far from home and the woman he adores. “The world hurts less when I’m by your side,” he tells her on “Collide.” On “Be Right Now,” he sings: “There’s nothing but the space we’re in, the hurry and the noise shut out.”

So let’s tiptoe away and leave him to his domestic bliss. — Mark Kennedy, Associated Press

Plush: I no longer fear for the future of rock ‘n’ roll. It is in the capable hands of the four young ladies of Plush, perhaps the heaviest all-female rock group ever to put pick to string, and whose debut album could be the best album of 2021.

Imagine Pink singing for Metallica, and that just scratches the surface of the Plush sound.

You probably don’t know the name lead singer Moriah Formica yet — but you will, and soon. It will be in the same sentence with some of the greatest female vocalists — make that vocalists, period — of all time, including Ann Wilson of Heart and Pat



‘Plush’
Plush (Pavement Entertainment)

Benatar, whose songs Formica used to cover as a teenager in rock clubs with only an acoustic guitar. The arena has not been built with a roof high enough to contain her soaring, multioctave vocals.

The next song Formica writes about a happy romantic relationship will be the first: This disc is laden with pain-filled laments and rages, including the infectious first single, “Hate.”

There are songs about partners who abuse substances (“Sober”), cheat (“Why Do I Even Try”) and lie (“Don’t Say That.”)

But almost all of them end in messages of female empowerment in which the protagonist realizes she’s in a bad situation, cuts her losses and leaves to look for a better life (“Found a Way,” “Better Off Alone” and “Walk Away.”)

Instrumentally, Formica, who also plays rhythm guitar; bassist Ashley Suppa; lead guitarist Bella Perron; and drummer Brooke Colucci, all of them under the age of 21, play like accomplished veterans who hit as hard as anyone out there.

The kids are way better than all right: They could be the future of rock. — Wayne Parry, AP

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19):

Today the universe wants you to live life to the fullest! If that means throwing a boring task by the wayside, so be it. Some things may still need to be handled, but many of your duties can likely wait until tomorrow. Take this opportunity to enjoy a beautiful spot nearby.

Taurus (April 20-May 20):

A companion could be drawn to you right now through your sense of humor and your knowledge in your area of expertise. Even if you’ve known this person for years, today it might be particularly easy and fun to win their admiration through astute observations and sly jokes.

Gemini (May 21-June 20):

Your colleagues you interact with regularly could offer you some very valuable guidance today. While doing favors for others may come easy to you, you also shouldn’t hesitate to ask for help in return when you need it. If you’re looking for work, they could give you some great tips.

Cancer (June 21-July 22):

An answer might finally arrive today about whether or not a new acquaintance is interested in deepening your connection. It’s exciting to discover that someone finds you interesting, but it may be wisest to resist your urge to chase after them right now.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Nov. 6, 1860, former Illinois congressman Abraham Lincoln was elected President.

In 1893, composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky died at age 53.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):

Although the prospect of eating nutritious meals and getting some physical activity may not thrill you to the core, you’ll probably be really happy with the results of a more sensible regimen. Creating a healthy routine can really boost your energy and make you feel more present in your life.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

An old friend may be able to promote a job or project of yours today, even if you haven’t spoken to them in some time. It’s nice to know that the connection is still there! Their efforts could get you a much larger audience than you would have thought, no matter what work you do.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):

The universe is smiling on you today, Libra! Peers might be jealous of you — if you weren’t so charming. Your opportunities can really flourish as you make great use of your marketable skills, and you might even be able to achieve some sort of monetary bonus.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

Life could feel a little bland right now, like you’re stuck in a rut. A little change of scenery can help to lift your spirits and make you glow from the inside out. In particular, you may want to go somewhere with real history. Look at beautiful antiques and unspoiled landscapes.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

A social butterfly like you may hate isolation, but you could really benefit right now from working at home or another place that brings you joy. Instead of sitting in an uninspiring place and spending precious personal time on long commutes, you could have more energy and time to relax.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

You can attract supporters and admirers like a flower draws bees today! Whether you want to begin a new personal project, find a more inspiring job, or meet someone who seems out of reach, you might be able to do so with the aid of your friends.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

You could really shine in your public life today, no matter what you’re working on. Being utterly different from your competitors can be a great strength at the moment, so it’s a good thing your sign isn’t afraid to stand out. The sooner you do, the faster doors could swing open.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):

Being sensitive toward others can ease up your path to success today. Instead of feeling alienated, people could be more eager to help you advance. Although you’re unlikely to befriend someone simply because of their status, you can benefit from knowing the right people.

In 1906, Republican Charles Evans Hughes was elected governor of New York, defeating newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst.

In 1928, in a first, the results of Republican Herbert Hoover’s presidential election victory were flashed onto an electric wraparound sign on the New York Times building.

In 1990, about one-fifth of the Universal Studios backlot in California was destroyed in an arson fire.

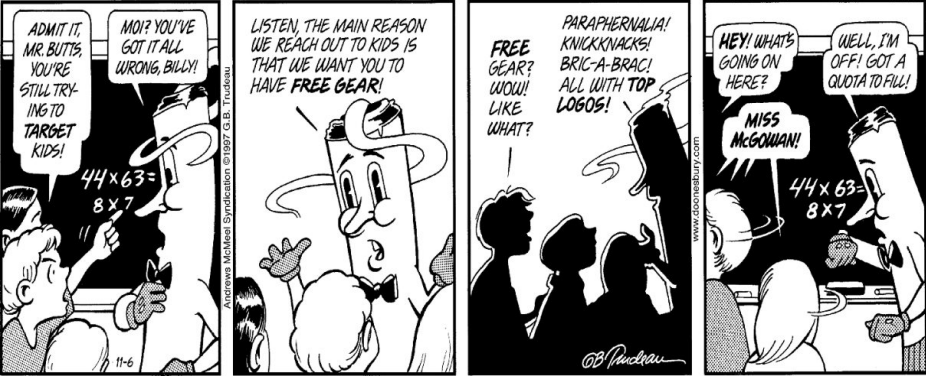
In 2012, President Barack Obama was elected to a second term of office.

In 2015, President Barack Obama rejected the proposed Keystone XL pipeline, declaring it would undercut efforts to clinch a climate change deal.

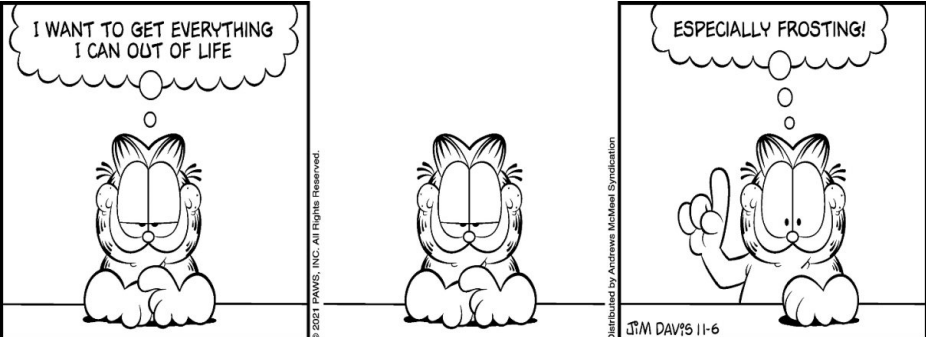
Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



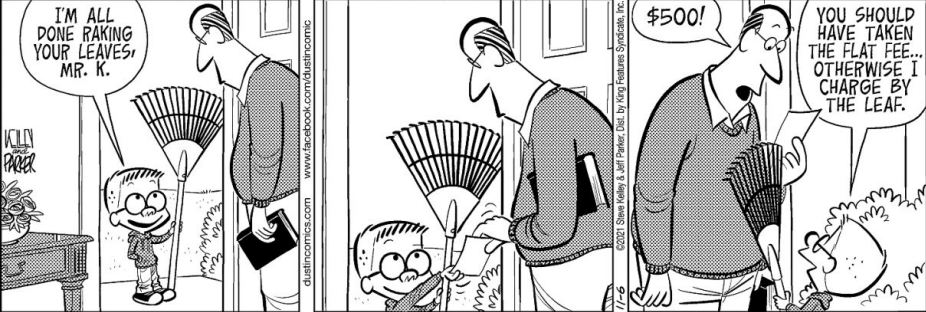
Garfield By Jim Davis



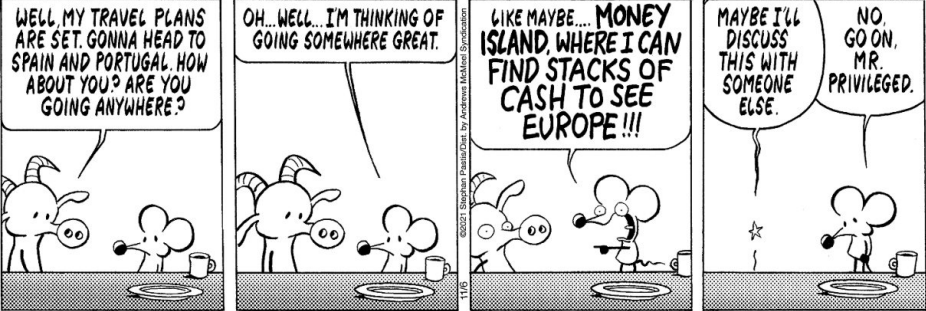
Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



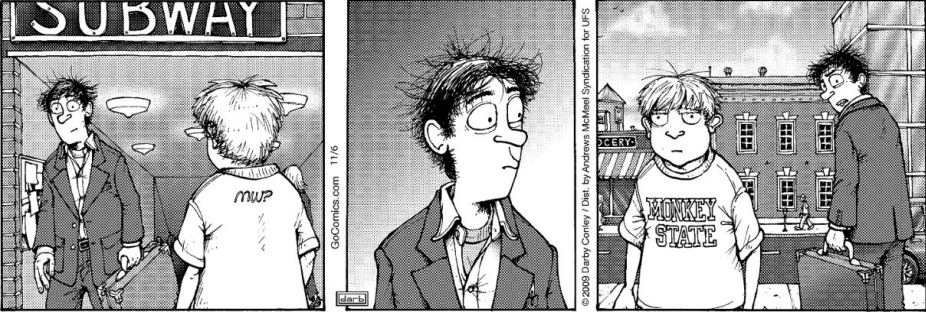
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Dilbert By Scott Adams



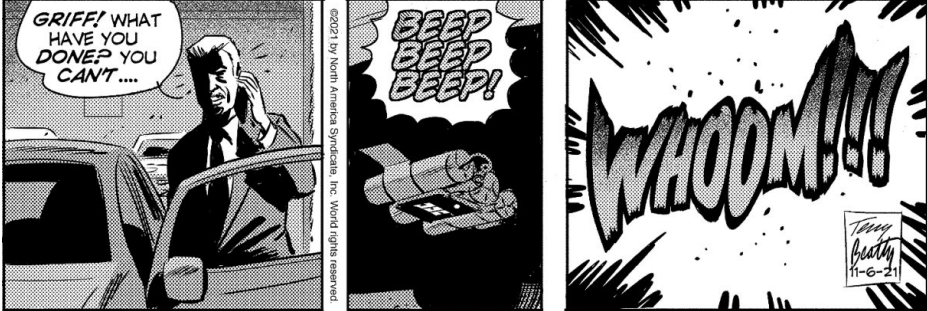
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



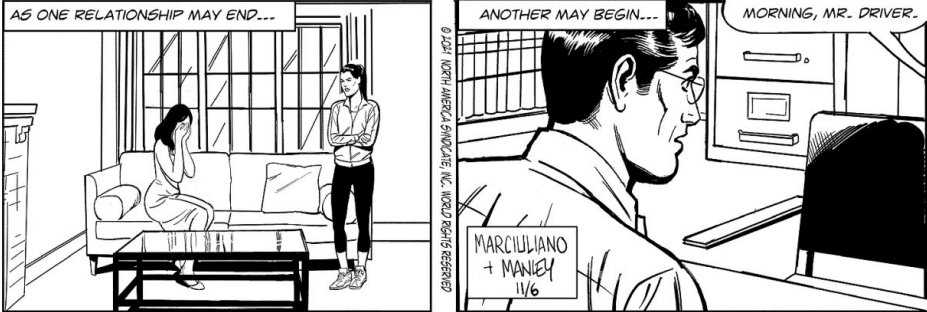
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



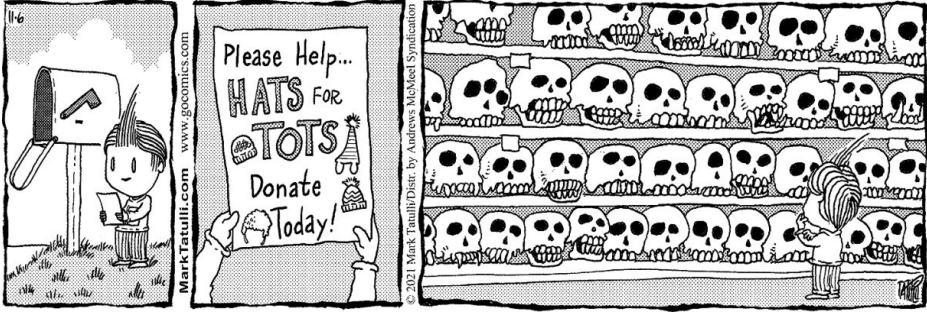
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



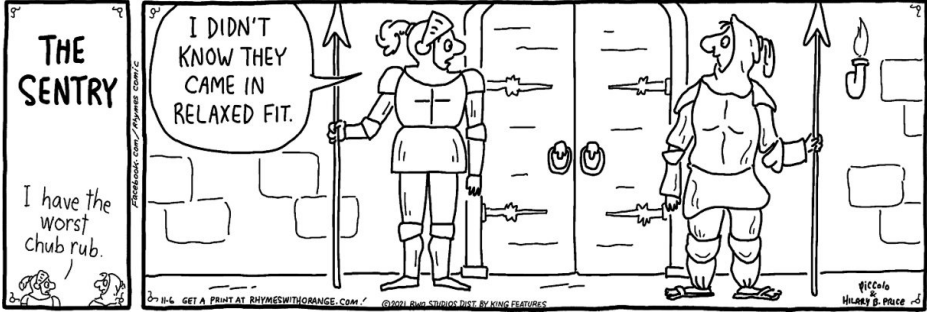
Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price

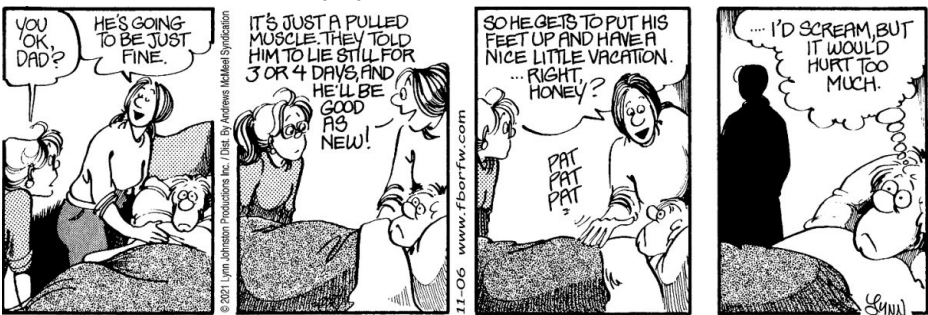


Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



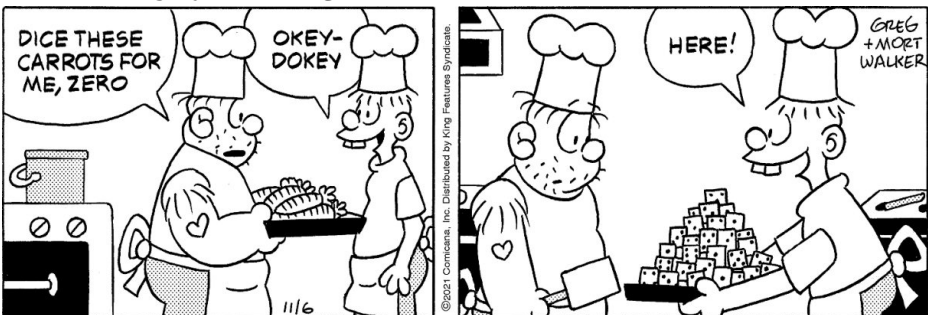
B.C.

By Hart



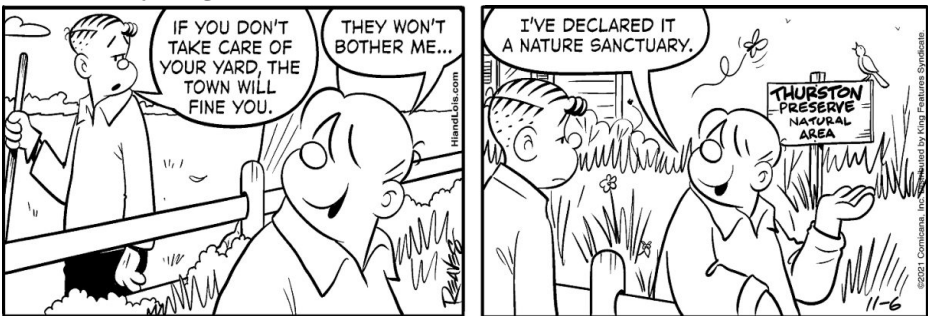
Beetle Bailey

by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker



Hi & Lois

By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



Hagar The Horrible

By Chris Browne



Non Sequitur

By Wiley Miller



Curtis

By Ray Billingsley



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Zits

By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



Mother Goose And Grimm

By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

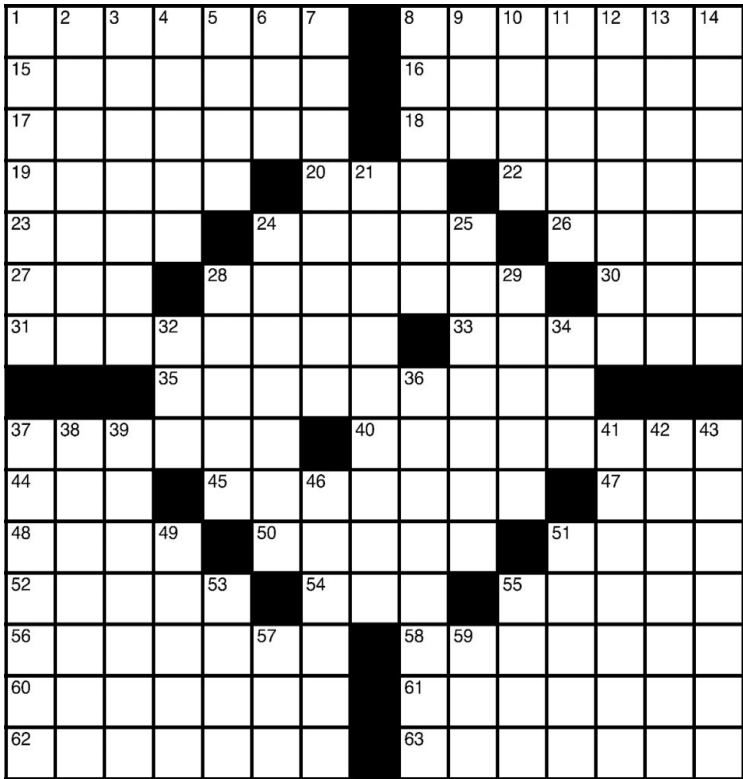
- A little of this, a little of that
- Common packing list item
- Transpose
- Italian music festival city that inspired Eurovision
- Twist expert?
- Gets off the fence
- Gets down?
- Expert
- Votre et ma
- She's Frankie on "Grace and Frankie"
- Shepard and Bean
- Don't stay in one place
- Jargon suffix
- Dazzled
- QB effort
- Weight training exercise
- Oil-rich peninsula
- Hardly symbiotic
- Financier Edward Francis
- Culinary knife cut producing tiny cubes
- Repulsed reaction
- Stray
- Snow
- Snow traveler
- Julie of the "Before" film trilogy
- Half up front?
- Spent
- Act for, for short
- Material for "Suits"

- Current with the wind
- "How stupid of me!"
- Magazine that annually runs the Black Women in Hollywood Awards
- Last of eight
- Pick a fight
- Unceremoniously dropped nowadays

Down

- More than just questioned
- Bold poker move
- Fictional Prince Edward Island community
- __ straw
- Ritual for some eight-day-olds

- Buridan's __: philosophical paradox
- "Surely you can do better things with your time!"
- Rise
- Code word
- Sans attribution, for short
- Jury swayer
- Destination of many a tube
- Honored retirees
- Stone home
- Singingly, in music
- Joined (with)
- Navy tour, e.g.
- Vein flower
- Spy in the air, maybe
- EPA-banned insecticide
- Long tail?
- Blocking the escape routes of
- "Side" jobs
- Most frightful
- "Long Island Medium" star __ Caputo
- Treats in an unfriendly way, in slang
- Unspecified soul
- Isolated, in a way
- "Pippin" Tony winner
- Turn aside
- Sword handles
- Force
- The "C" in the musical instruction "D.C. al fine"
- 601, to Virgil
- Unenthusiastic review



By Stella Zawistowski Tribune Content Agency 11/6/21

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

- ♠ K 9 4
- ♥ Q 9 3
- ♦ 10 6 2
- ♣ A Q 10 7

WEST

- ♠ 10 5 2
- ♥ 6
- ♦ 8 7 5 4 3
- ♣ K 9 8 2

EAST

- ♠ Q 7
- ♥ A K J 8 7 4 2
- ♦ Q J 9
- ♣ 3

SOUTH

- ♠ A J 8 6 3
- ♥ 10 5
- ♦ A K
- ♣ J 6 5 4

The bidding:

- | South | West | North | East |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1 ♠ | Pass | 2 ♠ | 2 ♥ |
| 3 ♠ | Pass | 3 ♠ | Pass |
| 4 ♠ | | | |

Opening lead — six of hearts.

Thirteen — the magic number

Bridge is an easy game to play well — if you put your mind to it.

For example, take this deal where South was in four spades and West led a heart. East won with the jack, cashed the ace, West discarding a diamond, and continued with the king. When declarer trumped with the eight, West overtrumped with the ten and shifted to a diamond, won by declarer with the king.

South played the K-A of spades — both opponents following — then cashed the ace of diamonds and led the jack of clubs. West covered with the king, taken by dummy's ace, and declarer ruffed the ten of diamonds.

Next came the four of clubs, and when West played the deuce, South finessed dummy's seven! Declarer then claimed the rest of the tricks, making four spades.

How did South know he should finesse the seven on the second round of clubs? Was it just a lucky guess? Had he caught a

glimpse of an opponent's hand? The truth is that it was neither. It was really just a matter of counting up to 13.

South learned at trick two that East had started with seven hearts. At trick six he learned that East had started with two spades.

When he ruffed the diamond ten at trick nine, he learned that East had started with three diamonds.

With twelve of East's cards in three suits fully accounted for, it therefore followed that East had started with only one club. Finessing the seven of clubs was thus not as peculiar a play as it seemed.

Observe that West could not have averted this outcome by playing the eight of clubs rather than the deuce at trick 10. In that case, declarer would have won with the ten, returned a spade to the jack and finessed the club seven at trick 12 to produce the same result.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LLYYS

WTENI

MCSAUP

SGTEKA

Answer here: " " " "

Yesterday's Jumbles: USURP TAFFY OUTRAN ADJOIN

Answer: The sculpture of the presidents at Rushmore's 1,278 acre park is — AT THE "FOUR-FRONT"

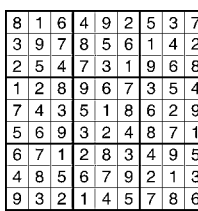


TODAY'S SUDOKU



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ZIPPY



Motoring
Inside

Hartford Courant

SPORTS

COURANT.COM / SPORTS



UCONN BASKETBALL 2021-22

The Courant's preview of the upcoming UConn men's and women's teams continues with a look at Tyrese Martin. Check back each day through Monday for more as the teams prepare for the start of the regular season next week. **More at courant.com/sports/uconn**

Following footsteps, creating his own

Senior Tyrese Martin uses hometown roots to grow on and off the court

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

For a moment last summer, Tyrese Martin found himself back home in the high school gym where it began, staring down at dozens of idolizing eyes and seeing a reflection of himself.

"I was just a kid in their footsteps, too," Martin said. "I knew what it was like growing up in Allentown public schools. A lot of kids, families struggle with a week-to-week check, not having opportunities to go to camps and things like that."

Martin, the 6-foot-6 senior for the UConn men's basketball team, looked into the opportunities

offered by the new name, image and likeness rules and saw that he could give the kids back home in Pennsylvania something he didn't have. He was able to join up with his high school coaches, mobilize some funds set aside by the city's parks and recreation department and run a two-day basketball camp in August.

"Any time he returned home, he popped into our gym to see the new guys playing for the school or head down to the middle school," said Randy Atiyeh, who coached Martin as a youngster. "He has never lost that sense of home and community. It's something he's always been passionate about."

The outsider's image of Allen-

town, for those of a certain age, was created by Billy Joel's 1982 song of the same name. A somewhat bleak picture of closed mills and factories and unemployed workers where it was "getting very hard to stay." Martin had never heard of the song until UConn assistant coach Tom Moore mentioned it to him a few years ago.

"Honestly, I didn't know who that was or what that song was," Martin said, "Maybe it's like an older thing. I don't feel like that's how people look at Allentown today."

Today, Allentown, with its population of 120,000, is the third largest city in Pennsylvania. A place not unlike some in Connecticut with the problems common for cities that size. The poverty rate is 25.7 percent. There is a revitalized

Turn to Martin, Page 4



UConn's Tyrese Martin works for a rebound against Georgetown's Chudier Bile during the first half of a game March 6 in Storrs. Martin is expected to be a team leader for the Huskies this season. **DAVID BUTLER II/AP**

Husky numbers Basketball is all about numbers and here's a look at some key figures for the UConn men and women as they prepare for the start of the season:

21 Where the men rank in Ken Pomeroy's preseason power rankings. They're 23rd in ESPN's poll; 24th in AP.

4 Women's players over 6 feet 5: Olivia Nelson-Ododa, Dorka Juhász, Piath Gabriel and Amari DeBerry.

See the complete by the numbers look at each team, **Page 4**

COMMENTARY

As bad as it gets

NFL suffers through week of tragedy, silliness, selfishness

By Paul Newberry
Associated Press

No one spins things like the NFL, but not even its mighty PR machine can make this past week go away.

In a matter of days, the league was struck by a horrific tragedy involving one of its most promising players, a familiar farce from one of its most polarizing performers, and a clear case of deception and irresponsibility tainting one of its biggest stars.

By far, the most devastating news came from the desert, where the Las Vegas Raiders — already dealing with the fallout from coach Jon Gruden's forced exit over racist, homophobic and misogynistic emails — quickly cut second-year receiver Henry Ruggs III after his high-powered sports car rammed into the back of another vehicle, killing a woman in a fiery crash.

Police said Ruggs was racing along at more than 150 mph and had a blood-alcohol content twice the legal limit when the crash occurred early Tuesday morning, which means the speedy receiver's NFL career is likely over just as it was getting started.

Of course, that pales in comparison to the personal toll of Ruggs' staggeringly reckless behavior.

Tina O. Tintor had escaped from war-torn Serbia as a young child and was close to getting her U.S. citizenship,

Turn to NFL, Page 2

Inside

■ A lot of teams need to pass on Odell Beckham Jr. before he can catch on with Patriots. **Page 2**

■ Giants, Jets news. **Page 2**

HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY



Gavin Sherry of Conard sprints for the finish in the State Open cross country meet Friday. Sherry won the 5,000-meter race with a time of 15:16. His twin, Callum Sherry, placed second with a time of 15:22, and Manchester's Aidan Puffer was third (15:25). **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT PHOTOS**

Owning the road

Somers senior St. Germain wins the State Open title; Conard twins Gavin and Callum Sherry go 1-2 in boys race

Rachel St. Germain of Somers closes in on the finish line in the girls State Open cross country meet Friday at Wickham Park. St. Germain won the race with a time of 18:02.



By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

Rachel St. Germain finished 38th at the State Open cross country championships two years ago. Since then she worked hard and improved and when the senior from Somers, a small Class S school, boldly entered the large school race at the Wickham Invitational on Oct. 9 and won it handily, she was ready to take a big step up.

This time St. Germain, the Class

S and NCCC champion, dominated the field at the State Open championships at Wickham Park on Friday, taking the lead early and cruising to victory in the 5,000-meter race in 18:02, 46 seconds ahead of runner-up Brooke Strauss, a freshman from Glastonbury.

"After running in that race at Wickham and seeing where she was against them, I just kind of felt like, 'OK, that was all the confidence she step up."

Turn to Open, Page 5



Safety Tip of the Day

Magnets are particularly dangerous to small children and can often fall out of toys. If a child swallows even one magnet, seek immediate medical attention.

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SPORTS

UP NEXT

UConn football: Clemson, Nov. 13, noon
Patriots: at Panthers, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Giants: Raiders, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Jets: Bills, Nov. 14, 1 p.m.
UConn MBB: Central (Gampel), Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.; Coppin State (XL Center), Nov. 13, noon; LIU (Gampel), Nov. 17, 6:30 p.m.
UConn WBB: Fort Hays State (Gampel, exhibition), Sunday, 1 p.m.; Arkansas (XL Center), Nov. 14, 1 p.m.; vs. Minnesota (Battle 4 Atlantis, Bahamas), Nov. 20, noon
Celtics: at Mavericks, Saturday, 8:30 p.m.; Raptors, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; Bucks, Friday, 7:30 p.m.
Knicks: Cavaliers, Sunday, 6 p.m.; at 76ers, Monday, 7 p.m.; Bucks, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Nets: at Raptors, Sunday, 3:30 p.m.; at Bulls, Monday, 8 p.m.; at Magic, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
UConn hockey: at Maine, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Boston College, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Providence, Nov. 13, 7 p.m.
Bruins: at Maple Leafs, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Senators, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Oilers, Thursday, 7 p.m.
Rangers: at Flames, Saturday, 10 p.m.; Panthers, Monday, 7 p.m.; at Blue Jackets, Nov. 13, 7 p.m.
Wolf Pack: W-B/Scranton, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Bridgeport, Sunday, 3 p.m.; at Springfield, Friday, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO

AUTO RACING
7 p.m.: NASCAR Cup Series NASCAR Cup Series Championship, Qualifying. (Live) CNBC
8:30 p.m.: NASCAR Xfinity Racing Series NASCAR Xfinity Series Championship. (Live) NBCSP
BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m.: Jazz at Heat. (Live) NBA
8:30 p.m.: Celtics at Mavericks. (Live), NBCSB
10:30 p.m.: Lakers at Trail Blazers. (Live) NBA
EQUESTRIAN
8 p.m.: 2021 Breeders Cup Classic (Live) NBC
FOOTBALL
11:30 a.m.: Army at Air Force. (Live) CBS
12 p.m.: Wake Forest at North Carolina. (Live) ABC
12 p.m.: Ohio State at Nebraska. (Live) FOX
12 p.m.: Pittsburgh at Duke. (Live) ACC
12 p.m.: Liberty at Ole Miss. (Live) SEC
12 p.m.: Missouri at Georgia. (Live) ESPN
12 p.m.: Illinois at Minnesota. (Live) ESPN2
12 p.m.: Kansas State at Kansas. (Live) FS1
3:30 p.m.: Michigan State at Purdue. (Live) ABC
3:30 p.m.: Auburn at Texas A&M. (Live) CBS
3:30 p.m.: Baylor at TCU. (Live) FOX
3:30 p.m.: Navy at Notre Dame. (Live) NBC
3:30 p.m.: Oklahoma State at West Virginia. (Live) ESPN
3:30 p.m.: Tulsa at Cincinnati. (Live) ESPN2
3:30 p.m.: Penn State at Maryland. (Live) FS1
4 p.m.: NC State at Florida State. (Live) ACC
4 p.m.: Mississippi State at Arkansas. (Live) SEC
4 p.m.: Tulane at UCF. (Live) ESPNU
7 p.m.: LSU at Alabama. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: Tennessee at Kentucky. (Live) ESPN2
7:30 p.m.: Oregon at Washington. (Live) ABC
7:30 p.m.: Indiana at Michigan. (Live) FOX
7:30 p.m.: Clemson at Louisville. (Live) ACC
7:30 p.m.: Florida at South Carolina. (Live) SEC
7:30 p.m.: Texas at Iowa State. (Live) FS1
10:30 p.m.: USC at Arizona State. (Live) ESPN
11 p.m.: San Diego State at Hawaii. (Live) FS1

GOLF
2 p.m.: World Wide Technology Championship at Mayakoba, Third Round. (Live) GOLF
HOCKEY
2 p.m.: Lightning at Senators. (Live) NHL
7 p.m.: Golden Knights at Canadiens. (Live) SPRTNET
7 p.m.: Bruins at Maple Leafs. (Live), NESN.
7 p.m.: W-B/Scranton Penguins at Hartford Wolf Pack. (Live), Radio: 1410.
7 p.m.: College: UConn at Maine. (Live), Radio: 97.9.
10 p.m.: New York Rangers at Calgary Flames. (Live), MSG
SOCCER
8:30 a.m.: Premier League Soccer Manchester United vs Manchester City. (Live) NBCSP

NFL

Browns release Beckham

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Odell Beckham Jr.'s run his last route for the Browns. He's wide open now.

The polarizing wide receiver is being released by the Cleveland Browns, who are cutting ties with Beckham after a drama-filled stay that ended with him being told to stay home from practice.

Beckham's unceremonious exit — not completely official — came on Friday, his 29th birthday, and a few days after his father shared a video on social media highlighting times when Browns quarterback Baker Mayfield didn't throw passes to the three-time Pro Bowler.

It was a tipping point in the team's often-unstable relationship with him.

The Browns didn't appreciate the video or that Beckham didn't reach out to Mayfield, who said he was willing to work things out.

Beckham was told not to report to practice for two days as his representation worked with Browns general manager



Browns wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. warms up prior to the start of a game against the Steelers on Sunday in Cleveland. The Browns cut ties with the polarizing star wide receiver Friday. KIRK IRWIN/AP

PATRIOTS

Poor reception

A lot of teams need to pass on Beckham before he can catch on with New England

By Nicole Yang
Boston Globe

BOSTON — Wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. has not been shy when it comes to detailing his admiration for Patriots coach Bill Belichick.

In 2019, Beckham's first season with the Cleveland Browns, he gushed about Belichick, noting how he's watched him from afar since he was a child. At the time of Super Bowl XXXVI, Beckham, then 9 years old, was a big fan of the St. Louis Rams and the Greatest Show on Turf offense. While he was disappointed the Rams ended up losing to the Patriots, the game also launched his fandom for Belichick and the ensuing dynasty.

"This is a coach who I've looked at for the longest time," Beckham said. "I was always rooting for him because I loved to see him succeed. But I always wanted someone to take them."

Now, Belichick is still coach of the Patriots and Beckham is in need of a new NFL home. The Browns announced Friday morning they are releasing Beckham on the day of his 29th birthday.

So, could the Patriots be a landing spot for the three-time Pro Bowler?

Asked Friday morning about how the team, generally speaking, approaches

Andrew Berry on agreeable financial terms for both sides in his departure.

"I don't think anyone envisioned when the organization traded for Odell three years ago that this would really be the resolution," Berry said. "It's unfortunate, but at the same time there are some situations in the NFL where things just don't quite work out and that's where we are today."

"Those decisions are incredibly difficult, but at the end of the day it's a decision that I felt was appropriate for our team."

Once the sides finalize financial terms — Beckham is owed \$8 million this season — Beckham will be waived and can be claimed by any team with enough salary-cap space. If he clears the waiver wire next week, he'll be a free agent and can sign anywhere.

"It's disappointing," Browns coach Kevin Stefanski said following Friday's practice. "Obviously, unfortunate how it all went down, but I wish him well."

GIANTS

Will Golladay-Lewerke connection be back on for Giants' Sunday pregame?

By Pat Leonard
New York Daily News

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Before Kenny Golladay catches more passes from Daniel Jones on Sunday against the Las Vegas Raiders, he might resume his connection with another Giants quarterback: third-string practice squad QB Brian Lewerke.

Golladay, a veteran receiver, has made a career off of difficult, contested catches. But he's not just good at it because of his hands and 6-foot-4, 213-pound frame.

He also practices it, including on game days.

On Oct. 3 in New Orleans, while Jones and second-string QB Mike Glennon warmed up with the Giants' receivers, Golladay was not in line catching passes from the starter or backup.

He was standing still in the back of the end zone instead, catching passes from Lewerke at various angles, stretching his arms, turning his hands — doing his own thing.

There's a reason why:

"You see some of those guys going out there running routes before, I pretty much stopped doing that two years ago," Golladay told the Daily News recently. "What I like to do is really just try to catch a ball in every direction so it won't be my first time catching a tough one. So I get at different angles to where I'm outstretched, where the

ball's too far in front of me and I need to be all hands on a catch when it's behind me, reach back and catch it."

"Then I just like to catch balls on stuff that I'm gonna run in the game kinda" he added. "I want to catch at least 10 in each way, so it's not like [in the game] that's the first time I'm seeing the ball coming at me at that angle. 'Cause when the bullets are really flying and you've got the ball out that's all the way out there and you're not expecting it, you're like, 'Oh, s—t,'" now you're straining extra hard."

That's why Golladay likes to get his tough catches "out of the way" in warmups.

"Then I don't gotta go out there before the game and kill myself and run the routes," he continued. "I ain't gotta go out there and break a huge sweat. I'm gonna break a little bit doing what I'm doing anyway, 'cause I'm gonna take a few steps between each catch."

Barkley out for fourth straight: RB Saquon Barkley (ankle), WR Sterling Shepard (quad), LB Lorenzo Carter (ankle), DB Nate Ebner (ankle) and WR Dante Pettis (shoulder/ injured reserve) are out for Sunday's game. Golladay (knee), WR Kadarious Toney (thumb) and RB Gary Brightwell (COVID protocol) are questionable. Barkley and Toney were not made available to the media this week. Barkley is out a fourth straight game with a reported low left ankle sprain.

NFL

from Page 1

according to relatives, only to lose her life in senseless fashion at age 23.

Heartbreakingly, witnesses said Tintor was still alive, screaming for help, before she and her beloved golden retriever, Max, were consumed by a fireball.

Her family and friends will have to live with that image for the rest of their lives.

Making it all the more infuriating: the prosecutor in Las Vegas said the NFL Players Association has contracted with rideshare services since 2013 to provide free transportation to its members "specifically to prevent tragedies such as this."

Ruggs was the No. 12 pick in last year's draft out of Alabama, a blazing receiver who was just beginning to realize his enormous potential through the first seven games of his second season.

Let's move on to another quarterback who is clearly lacking when it comes to caring for others.

Aaron Rodgers probably thought he was the smartest guy in the room when he said back in August he was "immunized" against COVID-19, deceiving us all into thinking he had taken one of the vaccines developed by actual scientists and proven beyond any shadow of a doubt to be overwhelmingly safe and highly effective.

We now know the the Green Bay Packers' star was choosing his words carefully.

Or, to put it another way, lying.

Dr. Rodgers, which is apparently what he wants to be when he grows up, asked the league to approve

his own "homeopathic treatment" as a substitute vaccine. That request was justifiably denied because, you know, we have actual vaccines.

Rodgers has since tested positive for COVID-19, which means he will miss Sunday's marquee game against the Kansas City Chiefs and have to stay away from the Packers teammates he professes to care so much about for a minimum of 10 days.

Choosing an out-of-the-box conduit to sway public opinion, Rodgers went on the free-wheeling SiriusXM show hosted by former NFL punter Pat McAfee, whose other job is serving as the outrageous color commentator on WWE's "Friday Night Smackdown" wrestling show.

Rodgers, a regular on McAfee's show, insisted that he's not one of those wackos who believes the vaccine contains a micro-chip or the Earth is flat.

Then, he proceeded to sound just like them, claiming that he's allergic to an ingredient in the vaccines and, somehow using the medical degree he never actually got, developed his own immunization protocol. He also claimed to be the victim of a "witch hunt."

Finally, we were going to move on to Odell Beckham Jr.'s latest three-ring circus, which involved a daddy sharing videos to show how badly his grown son was being treated by the mean quarterback, but we've run out of time.

Besides, the Cleveland big top closed on Friday.

The Browns are releasing their mercurial receiver.

With that, some good news for the NFL's spin masters.

The week is almost over.

JETS LATE THURSDAY

White's injury, defensive debacle costly

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — First, the New York Jets lost quarterback Mike White.

Then, the defense collapsed.

The combination led to yet another dreadful prime-time performance as the New York Jets lost 45-30 at Indianapolis. But the bigger concern is whether the Jets can again find solutions before they return to action Nov. 14 against Buffalo.

The good news is White's injury, initially described as being to his right forearm, does not appear to be long

term. White explained he left after two of his fingers went numb and he couldn't grip the ball.

"He started to get some feeling back in the middle or late in the fourth quarter, but it was too late," coach Robert Saleh said. "We feel good about him getting healthy over the weekend and next week."

With White watching the final three quarters from the sideline four days after making a historic starting debut with 405 yards passing and three touchdowns in a surprise win over the Bengals,

the Jets (2-6) weren't the same.

Maye out for season: Safety Marcus Maye will miss the rest of the season with a torn Achilles tendon. Maye was injured early in the third quarter on a non-contact play. Tests confirmed the severity of the injury, which Saleh announced Friday.

"Leaning on my faith," Maye tweeted shortly after the game. "Y'all just pray for me and wish the best for me! I love my teammates more than y'all know! Hold it down! I'll be alright, God got me!"



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FOOTBALL
Nov. 13: at Clemson,
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UConn Basketball 2021-22

Playing a numbers game



R.J. Cole wore No. 1 last season but took No. 2 now that James Bouknight is gone. **ROBERT FRANKLIN | AP**

MEN BY THE NUMBERS

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

In March 20, 2021, the UConn men's basketball team took the floor at the Mackey Arena in West Lafayette, Indiana, to play Maryland. It was the 34th time, dating back to 1951, that the bright lights of March Madness found UConn.

Four times such a moment marked the start of a march to a national championships. Several other times, it marked the beginning memorable runs that fell just short but produced signature moments in program history.

This wasn't one of those. The Huskies were bounced, 63-54, from the 2021 NCAA Tournament. That it was UConn's first appearance in five years had to be reason enough to be satisfied. The program's lean years appeared to be over.

As we move into a new season, here is a by-the-numbers look at UConn men's basketball.

- 0:** Number of transfers joining UConn for this season.
- 1:** The number of baskets UConn had operational on First Night.
- 2:** UConn commits who were Gatorade state players of the year in 2021, Donovan Clingan (Connecticut) and Jordan Hawkins (Maryland).
- 4:** National championships.
- 5:** Final Four appearances, and the number worn by Isaiah Whaley in his fifth year in the program.
- 9:** Where former UConn men's basketball coach Jim Calhoun's St. Joseph's team is picked in the NCAA Division III preseason poll.
- 11:** Where James Bouknight was picked in the 2021 NBA draft.
- 14:** Lottery picks in program history.
- 17:** Corey Floyd, Jr.'s age.
- 18:** UConn's Sweet 16 appearances.
- 21:** The Huskies' rank in Ken Pomeroy's preseason power rankings.
- 21.7:** Percentage of rebounds grabbed in 2020-21 by players no longer with program. (Bouknight, Brendan Adams, Josh Carlton and Javontae Brown)
- 24:** UConn's ranking in the AP Top 25 preseason poll.
- 25.7:** Percentage of points scored last

- season by players no longer with the program.
- 35:** If they make it this year, it would be UConn's 35th NCAA Tournament appearance.
- 40:** New assistant coach Luke Murray has been ranked one of top-10 coaches under 40 by ESPN and one of 40 most influential people under 40 in college basketball by The Athletic. Murray is 36.
- 45:** The price, in dollars, of a "Cole-Blooded" hoodie.
- 45:07:** The number of minutes and seconds vs. Creighton in the Big East Tournament plus the full game vs. Maryland that became an offseason theme for the Huskies.
- 46.4:** Jordan Hawkins' 3-point shooting percentage at DeMatha Catholic last season.
- 53.1:** Dan Hurley's winning percentage (17-15) in his fourth season at Rhode Island. He was 25-10 the next year.
- 327:** Points Tyler Polley needs to reach 1,000 for his UConn career.
- 1,000:** Andrew Hurley's shooting percentage. He made the only shot he took, a 3-pointer.
- +5,000:** Betting odds for UConn to win its fifth national championship in 2022.



UConn's Evina Westbrook smiles during First Night activities on Oct. 15 in Storrs. Westbrook averaged more than 30 minutes a game last season. **JESSICA HILL/AP**

WOMEN BY THE NUMBERS

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

For a team that returns the majority of its regular contributors from last year, the UConn women's basketball team faces a decent amount of questions heading into the 2021-22 season.

With the largest roster the program has had in over a decade, who will carve out the main spots in the rotation? How will the four newcomers, three of whom are freshmen, mix in with the returners? Will any starters from last season be asked to come off the bench this year? How will Paige Bueckers up her game, and what sort of role with mega recruit Azzi Fudd assume?

Fans and media will get their first look at the 2021-22 Huskies on Sunday in an exhibition game against Fort Hays State. Until then, here are some numbers that characterize this UConn team and all its promise.

- 1:** Scholarship players lost from last season. Following an injury-ridden sophomore campaign, Anna Makurat opted to go pro in her home country of Poland. Walk-on Autumn Chassion also transferred from the program.
- 2:** UConn's ranking in the AP Top 25 preseason poll, the program's best preseason slot since 2018-19.
- 3:** Players who averaged over 30 minutes per game last season (Bueckers, Christyn Williams and Evina Westbrook). Expect that to change with much more depth this season.
- 4:** Players over 6 feet 5: Senior Olivia Nelson-Ododa, grad transfer Dorka Juhász, sophomore Piath Gabriel and freshman Amari DeBerry.
- 5:** Seasons UConn has gone without winning a national title (including the NCAA Tournament-less 2019-20 campaign).
- 6:** UConn players on the Basketball Hall of Fame and Women's Basketball Coaches Association's Women's Starting 5 watch lists: Bueckers, Williams, Nelson-Ododa, Juhász, Fudd and sophomore Aaliyah Edwards.
- 8:** The postseason games (Big East Tournament plus NCAA Tournament) where Williams turned around her junior season and played arguably the best basketball of

- her career as a lockdown defender and more consistent offensive threat.
- 9:** Freshmen and sophomores combined on the 2021-22 UConn team, making for a predominately young squad despite their undeniable talent.
- 11:** UConn's national titles, starting with the program's first in 1995. It is the most of any women's basketball program and tied with the UCLA men for the most in college basketball as a whole.
- 12.9:** Bueckers' nation-best total win shares last season, 2.5 more than the next-best player (per Her Hoop Stats).
- 13:** UConn's consecutive Final Four appearances, a streak kept alive this past season with the Huskies' thrilling 69-67 win over Baylor in the Elite Eight.
- 14:** UConn's roster size this season, good for its largest team since 2008-09.
- 15:** Millions that Geno Auriemma's five-year contract extension, which was finalized this past April, is worth.
- 615:** Days between the Huskies' last home game in front of a real crowd (March 2, 2020, their regular-season finale at Gampel Pavilion) and Sunday's exhibition game. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, only friends and family were allowed at home games last season.

Martin

from Page 1

downtown with an 8,000-seat arena that local folks filled to watch Martin and Talek Williams, who later played for Central Connecticut, in a postseason game for Allen High in 2017.

"One of the top high school events of the last decade or two," said Doug Snyder, Allen's long-time coach.

It's a basketball town, and the high school gyms weren't big enough for that team.

"From elementary on up, they all knew about that high school team and wanted to be a part of it," Atiyeh said. "Tyrese has seen his dream come true, and what's special about him is he wants to give back so that other kids can see that. If a kid like him can make it, the kids who grew up in the house next door can make it. He's always been passionate about driving that message home."

Martin, who was raised with three younger sisters by his single mom, Pamela Rynearson, provides hope. He is not far removed from

his hometown's realities. When his mother lost her job in a local restaurant during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, Martin worked in a warehouse to keep things afloat as waited in the transfer portal between Rhode Island and UConn.

"My mom had to take care of me and my three little sisters, so she worked 10-, 11-hour shifts a day just for a week-to-week check, just to meet needs not even extra stuff," Martin said. "So every day I just knew I had to take advantage of this basketball opportunity to try to change my family situation and my situation for the better."

After eighth grade, Atiyeh and Snyder sat down with Martin to explain his potential and give him a roadmap to bigger and better things.

"We saw potential," Atiyeh said. "But he was a little bit of a clown up to then, gave his middle school teachers a hard time now and then, but he saw what we saw, and once that happened you just kind of saw the magic happening. He realized his own potential. He found his passion at an early age, and there was no stopping him."

From Allen High, where he scored 1,120 points, he went to Massanutten Military Academy in Virginia for a year then to Rhode Island to play for Dan Hurley and David Cox. After two seasons there, he rejoined Hurley at UConn, where he averaged 10.3 points and a team-leading 7.5 rebounds last season. With James Bouknight gone, Martin is among the players on whom the Huskies will rely to pick up the slack.

"Up until that late-season swoon, shooting struggles, Tyrese was having a great year for us," Hurley said. "We need that consistency from Tyrese all the way through the year. ... We need him to be that third scorer, potentially that all-conference-level player."

Returning to his roots is part of a growing process that could get Martin where he seeks to be. Snyder helped organize and run the camp last August.

"I wanted to introduce him to the little kids," Snyder said. "Most had never met him, and at 6-6 he was an imposing figure, and kids could literally and figuratively look right up to him. I wanted them to get the idea that they are *him*. They

are growing up in the same neighborhoods, same row houses, on the same streets. I told them his teammate, James Bouknight, was drafted into the NBA and who he played against. 'Here's a kid from 7th and Washington Street, just like you.'"

The two-day clinic was free for students of Allentown public schools, and the majority of the roughly 75 kids who took part were from his neighborhood.

"I could give kids an opportunity to come work with me for two days, learn different things, pick my brain, ask me questions," Martin said. "It was a great turnout on both days. Great interaction with kids. I like working with kids, and they were excited, had smiles on their faces, had fun. Their parents were coming up to me saying how much their kids were looking forward to it once they heard about it."

"It made me feel great about myself and the opportunity of giving back."

And that's what Snyder saw, too. Martin, 22, was coming into his own as a community's role model.

"You could really see Tyrese

mature as a teacher and a leader because he's always been very quiet, low-key," Snyder said. "Nothing really phases him or bothers him and that's helped him as an athlete. But I could see him coming out of his shell a little bit over those two days and really growing as an individual. He needs to become more assertive with the ball in his hand. And the maturation won't just be an off-the-court thing, it will translate on the court."

Not every kid will out of Allentown to build a better life, as Martin has in college basketball, but wherever the game takes him, the road will always lead back to Allentown.

"I'm just grateful for what I did and what I was able to overcome," Martin said. "I could move out of Allentown, but it's always going to be my roots. I'm always going to feel like I owe these people something. So whenever I have the chance to give back and thank them in a different way, Allentown's always going to be the place on my mind."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com

Did you know?

As the weather turns colder, it's important to remember that space heaters cause 43 percent of home heating fires and 85 percent of home heating fire-related deaths each year.

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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

CIAC fall state tourneys primer

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

The Connecticut fall high school sports teams have not held state championships since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, the season was held as usual, and the first round of the CIAC state tournaments begin Monday in girls volleyball, boys and girls soccer and field hockey. Here are some teams to watch in each sport.

Girls volleyball

Cheshire, which will play for the SCC tournament championship Saturday against Amity, is the No. 1 seed in Class LL. Conard, whose only regular-season loss came to RHAM, 3-2, is the fourth seed. RHAM is the No. 1 seed in Class L with an 18-1 regular-season record, but Simsbury knocked RHAM out of the CCC

tournament in the quarterfinals and will play for the CCC title Saturday against Bristol Eastern. Simsbury is the 11th seed in the Class L tournament and will play Newington on Monday in a first-round match. In Class S, Coventry, the 2018 runner-up, is the eighth seed. Weaver, the 13th seed, is in the state tournament for the first time since 1995. Granby, which finished the regular season 19-1, is the second seed in Class S.

Field hockey

The Class L bracket, as usual, is packed with FCIAC teams, with 10 of the 17 teams from the Fairfield County conference. The last non-FCIAC team to win Class L was Glastonbury, which shared the title in 2014 with Darien. Glastonbury is a No. 5 seed and will play Conard in the first round. Hall, the No. 3 seed, finished the season unbeaten at 14-0-2 but tied Sims-

bury 1-1 in its last regular-season game on Thursday. Hall will face Trumbull in the first round Wednesday. Wethersfield (15-1) is the No. 2 seed in Class M and will face No. 15 Brookfield on Tuesday. Valley Regional (15-0-1) is the No. 1 seed in Class S, while 2019 Class S champion Granby is the eighth seed and could face Valley in second-round play if both advance.

Girls soccer

No. 8 Southington, the 2019 Class LL runner-up, split games with 2019 Class LL champion Glastonbury, the No. 3 seed, during the regular season. Maloney (13-1-2) is the second seed in Class LL. In Class L, Suffield (13-3) is the third seed and will play the Foran-Wethersfield winner on Wednesday. The 2019 Class M champion Granby is the ninth seed in M and will open against Haddam-Killingworth on Monday.

Mercy, which won the SCC tournament title, is the fourth seed. In Class S, Metropolitan Learning Center, which won the CRAL tournament, is the No. 1 seed.

Boys soccer

Xavier, which won the SCC tournament title 1-0 in double overtime over Cheshire, is the top seed in Class LL, while 2019 Class LL champion Hall (12-0-4) is the second seed. Hand, the 2019 Class L champion, is the fourth seed in Class L and will face Pomperaug on Tuesday in the first round. Middletown (12-1-3) is the third seed. In Class M, Suffield (15-1) is the No. 2 seed. The Wildcats' only loss came to Granby, 1-0, on Sept. 28. In Class S, Old Saybrook is the 2019 champion and is the No. 2 seed with a 14-0-2 regular-season record.

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

BASEBALL NOTES

Schwarber declines option with Red Sox, will become free agent

Courant news services

Kyle Schwarber declined his one-year, \$11.5 million mutual option to return to the Red Sox for the 2022 season. The 28-year-old slugger instead will hit the free agent market after posting career highs in batting average (.266), on-base percentage (.374), and slugging percentage (.554) while blasting 32 homers in 113 games split between Boston and Washington. Schwarber hit .291/435/.522 in 41 games with the Sox following a midyear trade from the Nationals, getting into the lineup by taking a crash course at first base that allowed him to play that position as well as DH and corner outfield while helping the Sox reach the playoffs. He made no secret of how much he enjoyed his time with the Red Sox. "It'd be pretty stupid not to think about [returning]," Schwarber said in October. "My team here has been unbelievable. "If they feel like they would like to talk about [a new deal], I'd be all ears. I just think it would be stupid to X someone off for no reason. Especially for a place like this, I'd be all ears." But with a universal DH likely to be implemented this winter, Schwarber — whose improved plate discipline set the stage for his career-best season — could see widespread interest as a player capable of splitting his time between first, the two corner outfield spots, and DH. For that reason, the decision to decline his option was obvious and long-anticipated by the Sox.

Yankees lose fan favorite: When the Yankees head to spring training to begin the 2022 season, they'll do so without several cult heroes from the previous season. Shortstop Andrew Velazquez and outfielders Tim Lincecum and Greg Allen were all claimed off waivers by other teams on Friday. The Angels claimed Velazquez while Lincecum was picked up by the rival Boston Red Sox and Allen heads to the Pittsburgh Pirates. In addition, little-used catcher Rob Brantly was outrighted off the major league roster to Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

NETS 96, PISTONS 90

Durant's 29, Harden's triple-double lead Nets past Pistons

Associated Press

DETROIT — Kevin Durant had 29 points and 10 rebounds, James Harden added a triple-double and the Brooklyn Nets extended their winning streak to four games with a 96-90 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Friday night. Durant shook off a poor shooting night by hitting three straight Brooklyn baskets down the stretch. He became the first player in Nets history to score at least 20 points in the first nine games of a season, despite finishing 12 of 27 from the field.

LaMarcus Aldridge added 16 points for Brooklyn (6-3), while Harden had 15 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists. Harden also had nine turnovers and finished 0 for 5 from inside the arc. He became the fifth player in NBA history with a triple-double and no 2-point baskets, joining Jason Kidd, Delon Wright, Steve Blake and Kirk Hinrich. Cade Cunningham had 17 points for Detroit (1-8), while Kelly Olynyk added 13 points and 10 rebounds. Both offenses struggled badly in a first half that ended with the teams tied at 39. Detroit had a slight advantage in shooting percentage — 33.3% to 32.5% — but made just 2 of 16 3-point attempts. Brooklyn scored the first eight points of the third quarter and kept rolling, shooting 78.9% in a 39-point quarter to take a 78-62 lead. Durant had 12 points in the period while Blake Griffin added eight. The Pistons came back in the fourth, with Cunningham's five straight points and Cory Joseph's 3-pointer making it 88-86 with 4:03 left. Joseph missed another 3-pointer that could have given Detroit the lead with 2:56 to play, and Isaiah Stewart and Griffin got tangled up on the rebound.



Hall's Simon Levy (41) grabs Maloney's Joshua Boganski (24) in the first half of their game at Hall High School on Friday night. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Rumble, young man

Maloney's Boganski rushes for over 300 yards, 5 TDs as Spartans hand Hall its first loss, 49-18

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

WEST HARTFORD — Joshua Boganski had 48 carries for 314 yards and five touchdowns as Maloney High handed previously unbeaten Hall its first loss, 49-18, in a CCC Tier 1 football game on Friday night. "We knew we were going to ride him out," Spartans coach Kevin Frederick said. "We thought we were better than them up front and we wanted to control the line of scrimmage. Thought we did a great job with that. We played really well. I'm happy for the guys." Hall (7-1) trailed early, scored a touchdown to make it 7-6 in the first quarter but never really got close after that. Maloney (7-1) led 21-6 at halftime. "Hall has done a great job all year as far as controlling the football," Frederick said. "They're methodical. We knew if we went up on them, they'd have to get out

of their comfort zone a little bit. " Boganski had 16 carries for 123 yards and two touchdowns in the first half and he racked up 191 yards on 32 carries in the second half. Quarterback Angel Arce was 12 for 17 passing for 177 yards and two touchdowns. Maloney got on the scoreboard first with a five-play drive that ended in a 30-yard touchdown pass from Arce to Spencer Studley with 6:16 left in the first quarter. Josh Scaramuzzo's kick gave the Spartans a 7-0 lead. Hall answered with Eli Salomons' 5-yard touchdown pass to Angelo Culmo with 1:45 left in the first quarter. Salomons had a 10-yard pass and a 37-yard pass during the nine-play drive. The conversion failed and it was 7-6 Maloney. But the Warriors could not stop Maloney. The Spartans came right back with Boganski carrying the ball down the field; he scored on a 2-yard run with 10:21 left in the second quarter. Scaramuzzo's kick

gave Maloney a 14-6 lead. Two plays into Hall's next drive, Salomons was picked off by Maloney's Jack Fitzgerald and the ball ended up on the Hall 27. Maloney marched once again down the field but this time couldn't capitalize. The Spartans were stopped on the 11 on fourth-and-5 when Arce's pass was incomplete. Maloney's defense came up big again on the next series as Tylee Flowers intercepted a pass by Salomons. This time the Spartans made it count when Boganski scored his second touchdown of the game on a 7-yard run with 2:15 left in the half. Scaramuzzo's kick was good to give Maloney a 21-6 lead which the Spartans took into halftime. Salomons left the field limping with less than two minutes left in the half and Bode Smith took over at quarterback. Hall's top running back, Leo Ferreira, also left the game in the first half with an injury. Boganski went back to work in

the second half. He carried the ball 10 times in the first drive, capped by a 1-yard touchdown run with 6:27 left in the third quarter. The extra point was good and Maloney led, 28-6. Salomons came back in the second half and Hall picked up a little steam. His 8-yard touchdown pass to Matt Farber made the score 28-12. Hall went for a conversion but it failed. Hall's defense could not stop Maloney. Arce had a 15 yard touchdown pass with 32.7 seconds left in the third quarter and Boganski scored again on a 7 yard run and Maloney led 42-12 with 9:10 left in the game. Hall stopped the bleeding slightly with a 77-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Matt Farber. But Maloney was soon on the march down field again and Boganski scored on a 1-yard touchdown run and Maloney led 49-18.

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

Open

from Page 1

needed," Somers coach Michael Szafrir said. "She made it her own race and that's a difficult thing to do when you're going against the top girls in the state." On the boys side, Conard senior Gavin Sherry won his second title in 15:16 and he and his twin brother Callum became what is believed to be the first brothers in Connecticut to go 1-2 in the Open. Callum finished in 15:22 and Manchester senior Aidan Puffer was third in 15:25. Newington's Michael Bohlke rounded out the top four with a 15:29. Ridgefield won the boys title with 82, with Xavier finishing second (110) and Hall third (112). New Milford won the girls team title (94 points), with Glastonbury (124) second and Hall third (171). The boys race was highly anticipated and didn't disappoint. The lead pack took the first mile out fast, around 4:48, then settled. Gavin predictably pulled away on the Green Monster hill midway through the course, Callum and Puffer battled it out and Bohlke kept them both honest by hanging



Runners in the girls State Open cross country meet pass through Wickham Park's fall foliage. Rachel St. Germain of Somers won the 5,000 meter race with a time of 18:02. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

right behind them. "It's not that many states that have all these top guys who can run at championships like this," Callum said. "It's really nice. I always have someone to key off or to push right next to me, take turns leading, stuff like that. "It was tight. I could feel

Michael behind me and I knew Aidan was next to me or in front of me so I always had the drive to keep going." Gavin ran for the last time on his favorite course. Earlier in the season, he was hoping to break the course record (14:57) but an illness sidelined him for a few

weeks and he didn't run at the Wickham Invitational or the CCC championship. He also ran hard in the class championships Monday, which were moved from Saturday due to rain. "It's very sad but I'm happy with how it went today," Gavin said. "I love this course so much. I've made a lot of great memories here." The girls race was not as close. St. Germain was nervous about getting hung up at the start so she took off. "I just went hard," she said. "Big starts make me super nervous. I wanted to just go out fast and keep getting faster." She said winning the State Open was not a goal at the start of the season but as it went along, she started to think about it. "I was looking up all those times, I was like, 'Oh man, I have a shot,'" she said. "I was really nervous, I didn't think I was going to be able to do it." Szafrir was confident. "I knew she had it," he said. "If you just saw her form and the way she was carrying herself on that course, she was a champion."

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

MOTORING

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The recent increase in electric options has effectively steepened the learning curve dealers face when tasked with selling them. JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY 2020

‘The big challenge’ Drivers want EVs, but dealers don’t know how to sell them

By Hannah Elliott
Bloomberg News

“The big challenge to selling EVs is training” car dealers, Pieter Nota confided over dinner one night during the Munich Auto Show.

Nota, the board member of management at BMW AG, was talking about the company’s network of 348 distributors across the United States. He was speaking with a small group of journalists who had joined him for a Bavarian repast in Munich to celebrate BMW’s launch of its first-ever electric SUV and electric sedan.

“We are hitting the market exactly when the time is right,” Nota said. “When demand is rising and when charging is making strong progress.”

Seated next to Nota was Tom Moloughney, an expert in the field of electric vehicle (EV) adoption and the senior editor of the enthusiast website InsideEVs. Moloughney owned a MINI-E back in 2010, way before EVs were cool. In the following years, he hosted annual barbecues exclusive to his (few) EV-owning neighbors and friends in New Jersey. Soon, he earned a reputation as the guy who would let you charge your battery in his driveway if it needed juice.

Moloughney has acquired more than 50 different EV chargers, all currently installed at his home. He spends much of his time visiting such manufacturers as Audi, BMW, Ford and Porsche, talking with executives about his real-world experience with the good, the bad and the ugly EVs. Most urgently, he focuses on what he calls the single critical component to the success or failure of any company trying to sell EVs: the folks who are selling

them.

“One of the impediments to mass electrification is the fact that dealers are not as informed as they should be,” says Moloughney, who is also one of the architects of PlugStar, a program that helps consumers and dealers better understand and use electric vehicles.

The numbers bear out the issue: Pew Research reports that roughly 40% of Americans say they are somewhat likely to seriously consider buying an electric car. Consumer Reports puts that number as high as 71%. Still, actual sales of electric cars account for less than 2% of the market today.

“Selling an electric car (can take) three to four times as long as selling an internal combustion vehicle,” Moloughney says. “Salespeople don’t hate electric cars, it’s just that they’re there to make money. So if an EV takes them four times as long to sell, which car do you think they’ll try to sell?”

The challenges of selling electric

Moloughney leads roughly 25 dealer classes a year, both online and in small groups at dealerships for “pretty much every established OEM ... except maybe Buick.” The logic is simple: Educate car dealers upfront about the nuances of owning an electric vehicle so they can speed up their sales process, thereby motivating them to sell more EVs.

There are certainly plenty of electric vehicles to buy. In 2021 alone, Audi launched the e-Tron GT; BMW debuted the electric iX and i4; Mercedes-Benz launched the EQS sedan; and Cadillac launched the Lyric. Rivian, Tesla, Lucid, Ford, Polestar and Rolls-Royce have all announced additional electric vehicles being delivered now



Visitors look at a BMW electric car Sept. 9 in Munich, Germany, during the International Motor Show. TOBIAS SCHWARZ/GETTY-AFP

or upcoming soon. Sales of Porsche’s electric Taycan sedan even surpassed those of the brand-favorite 911. Porsche has delivered 28,640 examples of the Taycan so far this year, compared with 27,972 versions of the 911.

The recent increase in electric options (most well-made and capable) has effectively steepened the learning curve dealers face when tasked with selling them. Salespeople now must familiarize themselves with how to maintain, repair, charge, store, move and drive each of them — even models from various automakers if they work at a multibrand dealership.

Salespeople must now also address a different buyer. While in years past

consumers considering electric vehicles such as the BMW i3 or Tesla Model S tended to be tech-forward, eco-aware first-adopters already well-versed in the nuances of going green, automakers aiming to expand in the market and sell new wares now must appeal to “normal” consumers.

“I haven’t seen any OEM that I know of that doesn’t feel like this will be a complete conversion over time (from ICE vehicles to EVs),” says Mark LaNeve, the chief business officer of Charge Enterprises. “But the consumer will come along a little bit slower ... and the dealers are going to play a very critical role.”

How to sell an EV

When it comes to plug-

ging in, “people’s initial instinct is to say, ‘That’s not for me. Maybe those people will do it, but not me,’” says Moloughney. “We have to get over that hurdle.”

He spends more than an hour of class time on a charging “deep drive,” outlining the differences between Level 1 and Level 2 chargers and DC Fast Chargers and explaining how to install them in an office or home garage.

“It’s about being able to quell the fears of people talking about fires [possibly from complications with the battery pack] and range anxiety, but also to explain charging and the fact that you can take an EV just about anywhere these days,” he says. “There is still a lot of misinformation about EVs, and if the dealer

can’t completely eradicate those concerns, the person is not going to purchase an electric vehicle.”

He discusses best practices for salespeople (be sure to always send new customers home with a full charge), leads role-play scenarios and gives salespeople hang tags for an EV’s rearview mirror that outline every money-saving incentive that car qualifies for — and the final price after those savings have been applied.

“It’s like cheating, but having it written down like that, where they can see it, really helps them see the bottom line,” he says. The results speak for themselves: Savino says he can’t keep a Mach E in his showroom longer than a few days.

Why aren’t more people buying plug-in hybrids that save time, money?

By Mark Phelan
Detroit Free Press

The plug-in hybrid, or PHEV, version of the Ford Escape compact SUV slipped into dealerships recently, generating — as always seems to be the case — less attention and acclaim than this exceptionally useful technology deserves.

Perhaps PHEVs are inherently confusing, but I suspect that automakers — and writers like me — have

also explained them inadequately and praised them insufficiently.

Add to that the fact that full-electric vehicles — GMC Hummer EV, Ford F-150 Lightning, Rivian R1T, etc. — have been in the spotlight this year, and it’s easy to overlook PHEVs, which are widely seen as an intermediate step between gasoline engines and battery-only EVs.

I just drove a 2021 Escape PHEV and loved it, using just under 2 gallons of

gasoline in a 149-mile week of mainly local driving and two 40-mile-plus runs to appointments.

That’s about 75 mpg, but the bigger takeaway is that I burned no gasoline at all for short to medium jaunts and parts of the longer drives, thanks to the Escape PHEV’s EPA estimate of 37 miles on a fully charged battery. Real-world range will vary depending on your driving style, time spent on the highway, weather and other factors,

but 37 miles a day covers most or all regular driving for a lot of people. More if you add the growing number who charge at work as well as home. Much of the time, many PHEV owners live nearly free of tailpipe emissions.

Another benefit: I recharged it from a standard 120v household plug — no need for a professionally installed 240v charger — and spent a moment worried about running out of fuel.

Escape PHEV prices start at \$34,755, according to Edmunds.com. The vehicle is eligible for federal and state tax credits that can take thousands off the price. I tested a loaded Titanium model that cost \$38,855. Not cheap, but competitive with similarly equipped compact SUVs that rely solely on either gasoline or electricity.

EVs are almost certainly the future, but a PHEV can be a pretty sweet ride here and now.



Charging an Escape PHEV with 120v household current. MARK PHELAN



The new 2023 Corvette Z06 with the Z07 performance package was on display at the GM Tech Center on Oct. 22 in Warren, Michigan. **MANDI WRIGHT/DETROIT FREE PRESS**

REVIEW

2023 Corvette Z06 extends legend with radical engine

By Mark Phelan
Detroit Free Press

If General Motors' shift to electric vehicles spells the end of the legendary Chevy small-block V-8, the engine that powered many of its greatest vehicles is going out with a roar and a record: the most powerful naturally aspirated V-8 ever in a production car, the 2023 Corvette Z06.

The 670-horsepower 5.5L V-8 snarled to life in GM's high-security Design Dome recently, summoning the ghosts of eight decades of performance design and engineering.

The radically reworked Z06 features a host of other changes — many, like the V-8, born in development of the Corvette C8.R race car, which won a championship in its first year of competition and is leading in its second.

“Racing is the reason the Z06 was developed in 1963,” Corvette executive engineer Tadge Juechter said. “We’ve tested the Z06 on the best tracks in the world, from Circuit of the Americas here in the United States, to the Nürburgring in Germany.”

The interior also got a host of upgrades, including performance-oriented displays, carbon fiber trim with subtle red highlights

2023 Chevrolet Corvette Z06

Two-seat mid-engine coupe or convertible

Price: TBA

On sale: Fall 2022

Rear-wheel drive

On sale Dec. 2021

Engine: 5.5L DOHC flat-plane crank V-8

Output: 670 hp @ 8,400 rpm; 460 pound-feet of torque @ 6,300 rpm

Transmission: Eight-speed dual-clutch automatic

Estimated EPA fuel economy rating: TBA

Wheelbase: 107.2 inches

Length: 184.6 inches

and a raucous “dipped-red” color package.

The 2023 Chevrolet Corvette Z06 goes into production next summer in Kentucky. It’ll be available both as a coupe and convertible.

“Visceral,” “urgent” and “scalpel” were the keywords when the ‘Vette team started working on the Z06 in 2019.

The bodywork was widened to accommodate a 3.6-inch wider stance necessitated by massive 345-series rear tires and bigger side air vents for cooling. Four 5-foot-long “strakes” on the underbody direct air out from under the car to reduce

air pressure and increase roadholding.

“The steering response is in another universe” due to the big tires and light wheels, Juechter said. Engineers retuned the ‘Vette’s steering, suspension and eight-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission for more power and higher speeds, but the basic components, including MR adaptive suspension, are common with the Corvette Stingray.

The engine, however, is new from the ground up. In development for more than five years, it has 32 valves and dual overhead cam shafts, more small-block firsts. The high-pressure direction injection system is the exact same one used in Corvette C8.R race cars at tracks from Daytona to LeMans. Engineers also borrowed some tricks from Chevy’s Indy Car engine, including moving the fuel rails to the exhaust side to make room for bigger intake valves.

There will be Z06s as long as there are Corvettes — which means as long as there are Chevrolets. Someday, they’ll have electric power, and probably even quicker 0-60 times than the 2023, but they may never exceed the 5.5L flat-plane small-block’s visceral appeal.

How to get rid of unused car



Bob Weber
Motormouth

Q: I have a 2006 Hyundai Tucson GLS with approximately 123,000 miles. I have all original documents (keys, manuals, title) and it is in fair condition. It has been parked outside and not used for over a year. It will most likely need to be towed. I stopped driving due to medical issues and my wife is the primary driver using her own car. What is the best (and safest) way for us to sell our used car? I'm thinking we might get \$800 if we sell online but are not very savvy and fear the transaction might go off the rails if we try to sell to a stranger. Dealerships only want to deal with it if we are trading, which we are not ready to do. Thanks for your indispensable columns.

— J.S., Palm Beach, Florida

A: There are numerous online buyers. Carvana, for instance, is among the reputable buyers that will pick up and pay you for your car. A humanitarian donation is a wonderful way to get rid of a vehicle. A trusted charity is 1-800-Charity Cars (www.800charitycars.org), which will also provide a receipt for tax purposes.

The organization says online: “Since placing a vehicle with a client is the exception rather than the rule, donors should assume that their vehicle will be sold at auction or for salvage with the proceeds returning to our charity. We will notify the donor by phone and in writing if their vehicle qualifies as a ‘program vehicle’ and will be provided to a qualified person or entity.”



When trying to sell a used car, there are numerous buyers and organizations that can be found online. **DREAMSTIME**

Q: My question concerns the shelf life of full synthetic motor oil. When we bought our 2015 Audi Q5 3.0T in October 2015, it was recommended that we buy a quart of motor oil in the event that we needed to add it. I bought a quart of Castrol Edge 5W40. Six years on, that same quart sits in my basement. How long can I keep it before it would be a good idea to safely dispose of it?

— R.S., Warrenville, Illinois

A: Six years may be pushing it just a bit. The industry consensus is that, properly stored in a cool place, synthetic motor oil is good for five years. Personally, I would add that backup quart to the next oil change. Being a frugal fellow, I am reluctant to toss out a \$10 quart of oil. You can dispose of used (or even fresh) oil at any auto parts store, usually at no cost.

Q: I have a 2014 Ford Fusion. I noticed my brake lights were not going out after the car was turned off. Initially I was told the stop light switch assembly P/N 8T4Z-13480-A was bad. Cost \$32. I took the car into a Ford dealership and they said the problem was that the brake

pedal assembly bushing was broken. I was advised that the bushing could not be replaced and needed the entire brake assembly at a cost of \$247 plus two hours to replace at a charge of \$300. Thank you in advance for your help.

— R.M., Chicago

A: Escorts are notorious for brake lights staying on, which often kills the battery overnight. The switch is not usually the problem, but you probably don't need the entire pedal assembly. There is a rubber bumper (button) on the pedal assembly that breaks.

Popping a new one in takes a couple minutes, but the only place to get the part is a Ford dealer, not a parts store. Visit an independent repair shop for a second opinion.

Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. He maintains this status by seeking certification every five years. Weber's work appears in professional trade magazines and other consumer publications. His writing also appears in automotive trade publications, Consumer Guide and Consumers Digest. Send questions along with name and town to motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

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WEATHER

SATURDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and cool. A light morning wind becoming a southwest wind around 5 mph in the afternoon.

HIGH 53° LOW 28°

SUNDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Partly sunny and cool.

HIGH 53° LOW 34°

MONDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Sunny and milder.

HIGH 60° LOW 37°

TUESDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and mild.

HIGH 62° LOW 42°

WEDNESDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and mild.

HIGH 61° LOW 36°

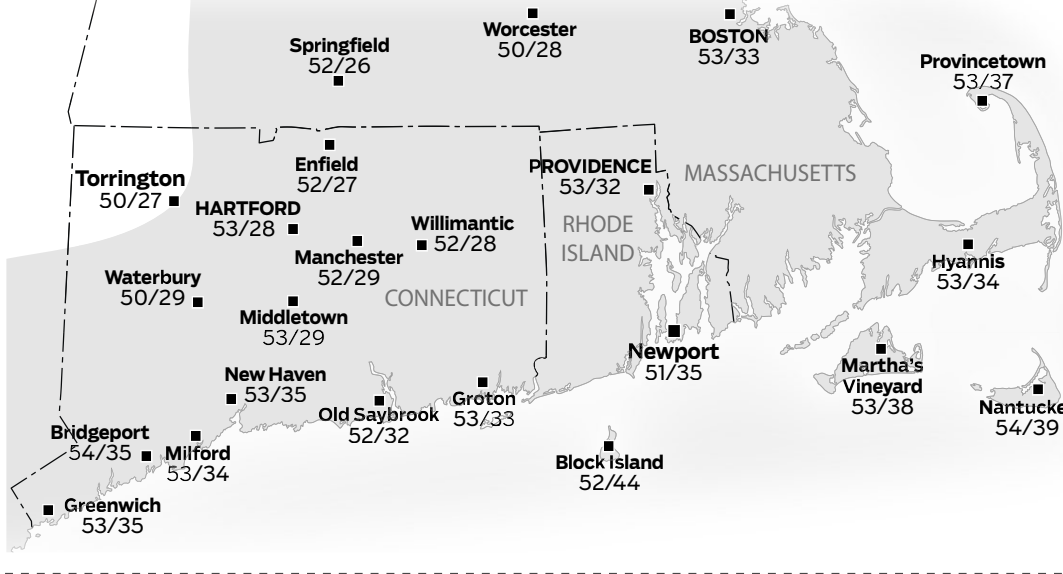
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YOURCAST

Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



OUTLOOK

High pressure over northeastern Pennsylvania Saturday will bring mostly sunny skies in Connecticut with high temperatures in the low to mid-50s. The wind will be light in the morning and then southwesterly in the afternoon at around 5 mph. A clear sky this evening will give way to partly cloudy conditions after midnight, especially in southwestern portions of the state. Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. after a stretch of 238 days with an extra hour of daylight in the afternoon or evening. High pressure will bring partly sunny skies on Sunday with little change in temperatures.

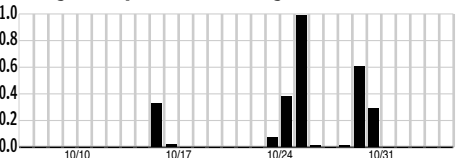
-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00 0.11
Month to date	0.00 0.56
Total this year	50.04 40.02

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

30-day Precipitation History In Inches



Air Quality Forecast For Today

Good 50

Low 2

25°

Air Quality Today

Ultraviolet Index Today

Wind Chill Today

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	7:29 a.m.	6:30 a.m.
Sunset	5:40 p.m.	4:39 p.m.
Moonrise	9:37 a.m.	9:55 a.m.
Moonset	7:02 p.m.	6:54 p.m.

Moon Phase

First Nov 11 Full Nov 19 Last Nov 27 New Dec 4

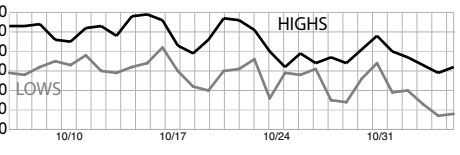
Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	10:50 a.m. 11:19 p.m.	4:49 a.m. 5:42 p.m.	56°
Saybrook Jetty	12:01 p.m.	6:35 p.m.	56°
Connecticut River at Portland	2:21 a.m. 2:44 p.m.	9:28 a.m. 10:21 p.m.	
Madison	12:04 a.m.	6:06 a.m.	56°
New Haven	12:20 p.m.	6:48 p.m.	
New Haven	12:28 a.m. 12:44 p.m.	6:30 a.m. 7:12 p.m.	58°
Stamford	12:32 a.m.	6:44 a.m.	61°
Stamford	12:48 p.m.	7:26 p.m.	
River Stage at Hartford:	719 feet at 6:30 p.m.		

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B.I. Sound
Wind	M/Sun, 5	M/Sun, 5	M/Sun, 5
Seas	1-2 ft.	1-3 ft.	1-3 ft.

Temperature	High	Low
Friday	52 at 2:59 p.m.	28 at 6:24 a.m.
Normal for date	56	36
Record for date	76 in 1994	21 in 1952
A year ago	71	44
Range this year	99	1

Heating Degree Days	Season	Normal	Last Season
For July 1 - Nov 5	384	575	539

30-day Temperature History



Atmosphere	High	Low
Barometer	30.38 at 7 p.m.	30.28 at 1 a.m.
Dew point	30° at 12 a.m.	22° at 5 p.m.

AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND

Bangor	51 28 S	Baltimore	54 35 PC
Burlington	49 29 PC	Bismarck	65 35 PC
Caribou	46 30 S	Boise	54 36 C
Concord	52 25 S	Buffalo	52 37 PC
Montpelier	45 22 S	Charleston	57 50 R
Mt. Wash.	30 24 PC	Cincinnati	57 34 S
Portland	50 31 S	Cleveland	53 36 S
Woods Hole	51 35 S	Indianapolis	55 37 S
		Jacksonville	55 48 SH
		Las Vegas	82 56 PC
		Miami Beach	79 62 PC
		Milwaukee	55 43 S

NATION

Albany	50 27 S
Albuquerque	74 45 S
Atlantic City	56 35 PC

WORLD

Nashville	61 35 S	San Juan	89 76 PC	Budapest	54 35 PC
New Orleans	70 49 S	Tucson	89 54 S	Buenos Aires	72 55 C
New York	53 41 S			Cairo	85 65 S
Okla. City	67 46 S			Cancun	83 71 PC
Omaha	63 45 S			Dubai	88 72 PC
Orlando	63 48 C			Dublin	57 43 C
Pittsburgh	52 32 S			Edinburgh	54 45 SH
Raleigh	54 46 C			Helsinki	43 32 PC
Salt Lake City	69 45 PC			Hong Kong	84 73 PC
San Antonio	73 49 S			Istanbul	70 57 PC
San Diego	69 61 PC			Jerusalem	79 64 S
				Johannesburg	88 59 T
				Singapore	93 75 T

Class M

First Round	Tuesday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Bye:	No. 1 Nonnewaug
Upper Bracket:	No. 17 O'Brien Tech (7-5-2) at No. 16 WCA (9-4-3), 5 p.m.; No. 25 Haddam-Killingworth (7-8-1) at No. 8 Ledyard (13-3), 4 p.m.; No. 24 Seymour (7-7-2) at No. 9 Granby (12-3-1), 7 p.m.; No. 29 Cromwell (6-9-1) at No. 4 Law (14-1-1), 4 p.m.; No. 20 Norwich Tech (8-6-2) at No. 13 Bullard-Havens (10-5), No. 28 Windham Tech (5-7-4) at No. 5 Woodland (13-0-3); No. 21 Lewis Mills (7-5-4) at No. 12 Ellington (4-7-5) at No. 2 Suffield (15-1), 6 p.m.; No. 18 Waterford (9-7) at No. 15 Northwestern (9-4-3); No. 26 Weaver (7-8-1) at No. 7 Barlow (11-1-3), No. 23 Wolcott (7-6-3) at No. 10 Morgan (11-2-3), 4 p.m.; No. 30 Tolland (10-4-2) at No. 3 Stonington (14-1), 6 p.m.; No. 19 Plainville (8-6-2) at No. 14 Rocky Hill (8-3-4), 6 p.m.; No. 27 Goodwin Tech (5-6-4) at No. 6 Weston (13-1-2); No. 22 Foran (7-6-3) at No. 11 Bacon Academy (11-5)
Second Round	Thursday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals	Nov. 13 at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals	Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

THURSDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BOYS SOCCER

CCC-East
RHAM 4, ENFIELD 2
Goals: R—Cooper Halotek, Jack Luby, Sean Connolly, Bradley Lim; E—Griffith Traizen, own goal. **Saves:** R—Erik Buden, 3; E—Jack Winans and John Bellafonte, 8. **Rec:** R—8-3-5; E—6-4-5.
Conference Tournaments
SCC—Final (at West Haven HS)
XAVIER 1, CHESHIRE 0

GIRLS SOCCER

Conference Tournaments
CRAL—Final (at Trinity, Hartford)
MLC 3, PARISH HILL 0
Goals: M—Erin Moore, Rhea Sterling, Makayla Smith. **Saves:** M—Zaida Kellier, 1; PH—Alex Smardon, 9. **Rec:** M—12-1-2; PH—5-10-2.
SCC—Final (at West Haven HS)
MERCY 2, AMITY 2 (MERCY WIN ON PK'S, 5-4)
Goals: M—Lauren Kohs, Laney Smith; A—Audrey Marin, Iza Kurpisz. **Saves:** M—Melina Ford, 7; A—Grace Lodewick, 2. **Rec:** M—15-2-2; A—15-2-2.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Conference Tournaments
CCC—Semifinals (at Simsbury HS)
BRISTOL EASTERN 3, GLASTONBURY 1 (20-25, 25-20, 25-11, 25-19)
BE: Sarah Lacouture, 13 digs, Alyssa Adorno, 3 aces, 2 digs, Jayna Hatcher, 2 assists, 1 dig. **Rec:** BE—17-5; G—15-6.
SIMSBURY 3, SOUTHTOWN 1 (25-16, 25-12, 14-25, 25-20)
St: Megan Candito, 34 digs, Brenna Pillier, 29 assists, 11 digs, 10 kills, 3 aces. **Rec:** SI—17-5; SO—16-5.
CTC—Semifinal
GOODWIN TECH 3, WHITNEY TECH 1 (21-25, 25-16, 25-21, 25-16)
GT: Trinity Chambers, 13 assists, 10 kills, 3 aces, Maribel Gonzalez, 8 kills, 6 digs, Gabby Radin, 12 digs. **Rec:** GT—19-3; WT—14-5.
SCC—Semifinals
CHESHIRE 3, HAND 0 (25-15, 25-17, 25-23)
AMITY 3, MERCY 1 (25-17, 14-25, 25-9, 25-23)

FRIDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

FOOTBALL

CCC Tier 2
MIDDLETOWN 35, ENFIELD 0
CCC Tier 3
SOUTH WINDSOR 35, FARMINGTON 7
CTC
NORTHWEST UNITED 45, VG TECHS 0
SCC Tier 1
FAIRFIELD PREP 54, SHELTON 0
SCC Tier 3
GUILFORD 46, BASSICK 0
ECC Div. I
FITCH 28, NFA 7
ECC Div. III
KILLINGLY 46, PLAINFIELD 0
ICC Inter
LEDYARD 64, MONTVILLE 6
NVL Copper
ANSONIA 23, WOODLAND 6
NVL Iron
NAUGATUCK 48, WOLCOTT 7

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

CIAC State Open (at Wickham Park, Manchester)
Top 10 **teams:** 1. Ridgefield, 82; 2. Xavier, 110; 3. Hall, 112; 4. Staples, 168; 5. Avon, 169; 6. Hand, 213; 7. Simsbury, 235; 8. Conard, 238; 9. Guilford, 247; 10. Manchester, 256.
Top 15 **individuals:** 1. Gavin Sherry, Conard, 15:16; 2. Callum Sherry, Conard, 15:22; 3. Aidan Puffer, Manchester, 15:25; 4. Michael Bohlike, Newington, 15:29; 5. Luke

Anthony, East Lyme, 15:49; 6. Eamon Burke, Xavier, 15:55; 7. Jack Martin, Avon, 16:02; 8. Nikita Omelchenko, Wilbur Cross, 16:05; 9. Walker Beverly, Hall, 16:13; 10. Steven Hergenrother, Ridgefield, 16:13; 11. Luke Davis, Simsbury, 16:16; 12. Mason Beaudette, Amity, 16:16; 13. Justin Cascio, Lewis Mills, 16:17; 14. Nathan Cramer, Fairfield Ludlowe, 16:21; 15. Matthew McDonough, Ridgefield, 16:21.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

CIAC State Open (at Wickham Park, Manchester)
Top 10 **teams:** 1. New Milford, 94; 2. Glastonbury, 124; 3. Hall, 171; 4. Ridgefield, 178; 5. E.O. Smith, 184; 6. Guilford, 216; 7. New Canaan, 232; 8. Greenwich, 236; 9. Trumbull, 243; 10. Somers, 247.
Top 15 **individuals:** 1. Rachel St. Germain, Somers, 18:02; 2. Brooke Strauss, Glastonbury, 18:48; 3. Sydney Kelleher, New Milford, 18:49; 4. Katherine Rector, Ridgefield, 18:53; 5. Alexa Ciccone, Cheshire, 18:55; 6. Kali Holden, Trumbull, 19:03; 7. Madeline Sweeney, New Milford, 19:11; 8. Anna Keeley, Fairfield Ludlowe, 19:14; 9. Megan Minicucci, Bolton, 19:15; 10. Julia Antony, Guilford, 19:17; 11. Chloe Poulos, Woodland, 19:21; 12. Katherine Sanderson, Hall, 19:23; 13. Radea Raleva, New Canaan, 19:23; 14. Nora Holmes, Hall, 19:30; 15. Peyton Bornstein, Tolland, 19:31.

SATURDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Conference Tournaments
CCC—Final (at Simsbury HS): Simsbury vs. Bristol Eastern, 6 p.m.
SCC—Final (at West Haven HS): Amity vs. Cheshire, 6 p.m.
CTC—Final (at Norwich Tech HS): Wolcott vs. Goodwin Tech, 5 p.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING

ECC: ECC Championship (at East Lyme HS), 2:30 p.m.
CIAC State HS tournament schedules

BOYS SOCCER

ALL FINALS NOV. 20-21 AT DILLON STADIUM, TIMES TBA
Class LL
First Round—Tuesday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Byes: No. 1 Xavier, No. 2 Hall, No. 3 Fairfield Prep, No. 4 Greenwich
Upper Bracket: No. 17 Enfield (6-4-5) at No. 16 Glastonbury (8-5-3); No. 25 New Britain (6-8) at No. 8 Darien (9-1-5); No. 24 South Windsor (5-7-4) at No. 9 Ridgefield (9-2-4), 6 p.m.; No. 20 McMahon (5-4-6) at No. 13 Cheshire (8-4-2); No. 28 Trumbull (4-7-4) at No. 5 Norwalk (12-2-2), 6 p.m.; No. 21 Simsbury (6-5-5) at No. 12 Newington (9-4-2)
Lower Bracket: No. 18 Hamden (8-6-2) at No. 15 Naugatuck (9-5-2); No. 26 Southington (4-8-3) at No. 7 Farmington (12-3-1), 4 p.m.; No. 23 Westhill (5-6-4) at No. 10 Fairfield Warde (9-2-4), 5:30 p.m.; No. 19 Danbury (5-4-6) at No. 14 Newtown (8-4-3), 6 p.m.; No. 27 Manchester (3-6-7) at No. 6 Staples (10-1-4); No. 22 Conard (7-7-2) at No. 11 West Haven (10-4-2)
Second Round—Thursday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals—Nov. 13 at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals—Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

Class L
First Round—Tuesday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Byes: No. 1 Ellis Tech; No. 2 Watertown; No. 3 Middletown
Upper Bracket: No. 17 RHAM (8-3-5) at No. 16 Masuk (9-4-3), 6 p.m.; No. 25 Wilton (6-6-4) at No. 8 Bristol Central (11-3-2); No. 24 Rockville (7-7-2) at No. 9 Guilford (11-3-2); No. 29 Pomperaug (4-7-5) at No. 4 Hand (12-1-3), 5 p.m.; No. 20 Bunnell (8-5-4) at No. 13 Notre Dame-West Haven (10-3-3), 3:30 p.m.; No. 28 Woodstock Academy (6-8-1) at No. 5 Abbott Tech (12-3-3); No. 21 Torrington (9-7) at No. 12 Wethersfield (10-3-3), 7:15 p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 18 Brookfield (8-4-4) at No. 15 Berlin (9-4-3), 5 p.m.; No. 26 Wilcox Tech (7-8-1) at No. 7 New London (12-4-4); No. 23 E.O. Smith (7-5-4) at No. 10 Bethel (9-2-4), 6 p.m.; No. 19 University/Prince Tech (8-5-3) at No. 14 Fitch (10-5); No. 27 Windsor (6-7-1) at No. 6 Platt Tech (10-2-2);

No. 22 Avon (7-5-4) at No. 11 Bassick (11-4-1), 4:30 p.m.
Second Round—Thursday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals—Nov. 13 at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals—Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

Class M
First Round—Tuesday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Bye: No. 1 Nonnewaug
Upper Bracket: No. 17 O'Brien Tech (7-5-2) at No. 16 WCA (9-4-3), 5 p.m.; No. 25 Haddam-Killingworth (7-8-1) at No. 8 Ledyard (13-3), 4 p.m.; No. 24 Seymour (7-7-2) at No. 9 Granby (12-3-1), 7 p.m.; No. 29 Cromwell (6-9-1) at No. 4 Law (14-1-1), 4 p.m.; No. 20 Norwich Tech (8-6-2) at No. 13 Bullard-Havens (10-5); No. 28 Windham Tech (5-7-4) at No. 5 Woodland (13-0-3); No. 21 Lewis Mills (7-5-4) at No. 12 Ellington (4-7-5) at No. 2 Suffield (15-1), 6 p.m.; No. 18 Waterford (9-7) at No. 15 Northwestern (9-4-3); No. 26 Weaver (7-8-1) at No. 7 Barlow (11-1-3), No. 23 Wolcott (7-6-3) at No. 10 Morgan (11-2-3), 4 p.m.; No. 30 Tolland (10-4-2) at No. 3 Stonington (14-1), 6 p.m.; No. 19 Plainville (8-6-2) at No. 14 Rocky Hill (8-3-4), 6 p.m.; No. 27 Goodwin Tech (5-6-4) at No. 6 Weston (13-1-2); No. 22 Foran (7-6-3) at No. 11 Bacon Academy (11-5)
Second Round—Thursday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals—Nov. 13 at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals—Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

Class S
First Round—Tuesday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Byes: No. 1 Holy Cross, No. 2 Old Saybrook, No. 3 Parish Hill, No. 4 Griswold, No. 5 Aerospace
Upper Bracket: No. 17 East Hampton (7-5-2) at No. 16 Innovation (8-5-3); No. 25 Classical (6-8-2) at No. 8 Canton (12-4-4), 9 p.m.; No. 24 St. Paul (6-8-2) at No. 9 Oxford (4-2-4), 6 p.m.; No. 20 Immaculate (8-7-1) at No. 13 Montville (10-5-1), 6 p.m.; No. 21 East Catholic (6-5-5) at No. 12 Litchfield (10-4-2)
Lower Bracket: No. 18 Thomaston (8-6-2) at No. 15 Portland (8-5-2), 3:30 p.m.; No. 26 Hale-Ray (5-7-1) at No. 7 St. Bernard (12-3-1); No. 23 Terryville (7-7-2) at No. 10 Valley Regional (11-4-1), 4 p.m.; No. 19 Bolton (8-6-2) at No. 14 Shepaug (10-5-1); No. 27 East Granby (5-8-3) at No. 6 Somers (12-3-1), 3 p.m.; No. 22 Wheeler (8-8) at No. 11 Coventry (11-5)
Second Round—Thursday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals—Nov. 13 at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals—Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

GIRLS SOCCER

ALL FINALS NOV. 20-21 AT DILLON STADIUM, TIMES TBA
Class LL
First Round—Monday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Byes: No. 1 Amity, No. 2 Maloney, No. 3 Glastonbury, No. 4 Newtown, No. 5 Newington, No. 6 Fairfield Ludlowe
Upper Bracket: No. 17 Greenwich (7-5-3) at No. 16 Farmington (7-4-5), 4 p.m.; No. 25 Darien (6-8-1) at No. 8 Southington (9-1-6), 5 p.m.; No. 24 NFA (5-7-4) at No. 9 Staples (9-2-4); No. 20 Naugatuck (7-7-2) at No. 13 Ridgefield (9-3-4), 6 p.m.; No. 21 Trumbull (6-6-4) at No. 12 Fairfield Warde (10-4-2), 5:30 p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 18 Danbury (9-7) at No. 15 Hall (7-3-6), 6 p.m.; No. 26 South Windsor (4-7-4) at No. 7 Manchester (10-2-4); No. 23 Enfield (7-9) at No. 10 Wilton (8-1-6), 5 p.m.; No. 19 West Haven (8-6-2) at No. 14 Cheshire (9-5-1), 4 p.m.; No. 22 Middle-town (6-7-3) at No. 11 New Canaan (9-3-3), 4:30 p.m.
Second Round—Wednesday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals—Friday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals—Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

Class L
First Round—Monday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Byes: No. 1 St. Joseph, No. 2 East Lyme, No. 3 Suffield, No. 4 Waterford, No. 5 Ledyard
Upper Bracket: No. 17 Berlin (7-4-5) at No. 16 Guilford (8-5-3), 5 p.m.; No. 25 Woodstock Academy (5-8-3) at No. 8 Branford (10-3-3), 5 p.m.; No. 24 Windsor (6-9-1) at No. 9 Pomperaug (10-3-3), 6:15 p.m.; No. 20

Quick-starting Wolf Pack hold on for 6-4 win over Bridgeport

Staff report

HARTFORD — Ty Ronning scored two of the Wolf Pack's four first-period goals to lead Hartford to a 6-4 AHL win over the Bridgeport Islanders on Friday night at the XL Center. Tarmo Reunanen opened the scoring for the Wolf Pack (6-2-1-0) at 4:18 on the first period. Ronning, at 11:18, and Alex Whelan, at 13:53, put Hartford up 3-2 before Ronning's second goal of the period at 19:08 pushed the lead to 4-2 after one.

Tim Gettinger scored what proved to be the winner at 7:47 of the third period and Tanner Fritz added a cushion at 17:02. Blade Jenkins had two goals for Bridgeport.

Up next for Hartford is a home game on Saturday against Wilkes-Barre/Scranton at 7 p.m., followed by a game at Bridgeport on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Avon (8-6-2) at No. 13 Bethel (10-5-1), 2:30 p.m.; No. 21 North Haven (7-9) at No. 12 Bullard-Havens (9-4-2)
Lower Bracket: No. 18 Killingly (8-6-2) at No. 15 Hand (9-4-3), 4 p.m.; No. 26 Masuk (5-8-3) at No. 7 Brookfield (11-4-1), 6 p.m.; No. 23 Barlow (6-8-1) at No. 10 Simsbury (8-2-6); No. 19 Wethersfield (8-6-2) at No. 14 Foran (9-4-3), 4 p.m.; No. 27 Bristol Eastern (5-8-2) at No. 6 E.O. Smith (10-2-4), 5:30 p.m.; No. 22 East Haven (6-8-2) at No. 11 Ellington (8-2-6)
Second Round—Wednesday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals—Friday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals—Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

Class M
First Round—Monday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Byes: No. 1 Nonnewaug; No. 2 Woodland; No. 3 Sacred Heart Academy
Upper Bracket: No. 17 Plainville (8-4-4) at No. 16 Lewis Mills (9-5-1), 4 p.m.; No. 25 New Fairfield (7-8-1) at No. 8 Morgan (9-9-7), 4 p.m.; No. 24 Haddam-Killingworth (6-6-3) at No. 9 Granby (12-4-4), 6 p.m.; No. 29 Valley Regional (5-8-3) at No. 4 Mercy (12-2-2), 7 p.m.; No. 20 Norwich Tech/Holy Family (8-6-2) at No. 13 Plainfield (10-4-2); No. 28 Stonington (6-9-1) at No. 5 Weston (11-4-4), 6 p.m.; No. 21 Seymour (8-7-1) at No. 12 Windham (11-5), 7 p.m.
Lower Bracket: No. 18 Wilcox Tech (9-6-1) at No. 15 Bacon Academy (9-4-3); No. 26 Canton (7-8-1) at No. 7 Sheehan (11-2-3), 4:30 p.m.; No. 23 Northwestern (8-8) at No. 10 Notre Dame-Fairfield (10-2-4); No. 19 Rocky Hill (8-6-2) at No. 14 Tolland (8-6-6), 5 p.m.; No. 27 Wolcott (6-8-2) at No. 6 Cromwell (10-0-6); No. 22 Montville (8-8) at No. 11 Watertown (11-5), 4 p.m.
Second Round—Wednesday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Quarterfinals—Friday at higher seeds, 2 p.m.
Semifinals—Nov. 16-18, site/time TBA

Class S
First Round—Monday, 2 p.m. unless noted
Byes: No. 1 MLC, No. 2 Holy Cross, No. 3 St. Bernard, No. 4 Windham Tech, No. 5 Wolcott Tech, No. 6 Somers

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It's cider season

By Rebekah Peppler
The New York Times

Autumn is here and, despite the aggressive push for pumpkin spice, it's unequivocally apple — and cider — season.

At its most basic definition, cider is fermented apple juice. But like wine, it can skew tart, sour, dry, bitter, sweet, wild, herbal, acidic, sparkling with big bubbles or fine, fizzy bubbles, or not sparkling at all. Some ciders aren't even made from apples, but pears or other pomeaceous fruit. If you're a cider aficionado, there is always a new expression to try; if you're newer to the world of ciders, it's safe to assume that, if you taste enough, you'll find one suited to your palate.

Cider has a long history. Records of cidermaking date to the Roman Empire, and many historians believe the Romans discovered it while invading what is now modern-day England. After the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, the drink spread across Europe, with regions developing different production methods and traditions influenced by terroir, apple varieties and local customs.

To that end, traditional English ciders often lean dry and tannic; French cidre tends to be sweeter, lower in alcohol and light in sparkle; and Spanish sidra is frequently funky, tangy and unfiltered. While close in proximity, the northern Basque and Asturias regions — Spain's two main cidermaking areas — produce differ-

ent styles: Basque cider is typically more acidic and savory; Asturian cider fruitier. A similar contrast plays out in two of France's neighboring cider regions, Brittany and Normandy. Breton cider is often drier and a bit stronger than off-dry, complex Norman bottles.

In North America, cider was extremely popular in the 17th century, but the once-bracing drink fell out of favor amid a rising preference for beer and a move to urban development in the mid- to late-19th century.

By the end of Prohibition in 1933, many of the orchards producing small tannin-rich, often-astringent cider apples were destroyed and replaced with sweeter, more palatable table apples, and the cider industry didn't recover in the way the beer and spirits industries eventually did. But since the late 1990s, U.S. cider has moved from post-Prohibition's candy-sweet iterations to serious bottles that employ heritage and contemporary techniques and craft ciders that range from bone dry to juicy and delightfully funky.

Enjoyable on its own as an aperitif or served alongside a meal, cider has also found its way into cocktails. Andra "AJ" Johnson, beverage director and managing partner at Serenata in Washington, D.C., and a founder of DMV Black Restaurant Week, likens its role in mixed drinks to that of sparkling wine.

With the addition of sparkling wine, she said,



A gin cidre cocktail. Added to cocktails, sipped on its own or even turned into a syrup, cider is anything but simple. DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS



"you're giving your cocktail another dimension, adding acidity, a bit of tannin quality, balancing the richness or sweetness of the cocktail's base, and cleansing your palate at the same time."

Ciders, she added, "are going to act the exact same way."

Start simple, and combine cider and vermouth in equal parts over ice. For another easy option that's low-ABV (alcohol by volume), swap wine for cider in a Kir cocktail, and call it a Kir Breton. Or, if you're looking for something with more spirit, top a base of gin, sherry and orange liqueur

with an effervescent glug of dry cider.

"It's all about creating balance," she said. "It is not something to be overthought."

The best way to figure out which cider is most balancing is to taste a bunch and experiment. Johnson suggests using a richer cider to counter a more fruit-forward base. Pair a sweeter base with a drier-leaning cider, or vice versa.

Since many ciders are sold in larger-format bottles, you can start the evening with a cider-based cocktail or two, then drink the rest of the bottle alongside a meal.

Basque Country

The equal proportions of vermouth and cider make this cocktail especially easy to pour or batch up. Choose a cider with a bit of tartness and funk, and reach for a quality red vermouth. Sweet and slightly viscous, it stands up to and smooths out the cider's personality. Finally, don't skimp on the garnish. The orange, olives and peppers should be deployed in a way that feels less like decoration and more like a snack. Drop the skewer straight into your cocktail to impart notes of citrus and brine — or lay it on top to snack on and sip at your

leisure.

Makes: 1 drink
Ice
1 ½ ounces sweet vermouth
1 ½ ounces Basque or Basque-style cider
Orange half wheels, green olives (such as Manzanilla), guindilla peppers (also called piparras), for garnish
Fill a lowball glass with ice. Add the sweet vermouth and cider, stir gently to combine. Thread a skewer with an orange half wheel, a few olives and a guindilla pepper, and garnish.
— Recipe by Rebekah Peppler

Gin Cidre

Bright, botanical and lightly bubbly, this cocktail is an ideal entry point to fall drinking — and one that can easily take you into spring. Look to a cider that's dry, light and not overly powerful in acid or funk here: You want the botanicals of the gin and the salinity of the sherry to play an equal role in balancing the drink.

Makes: 1 drink
¾ ounce gin
¾ ounce fino sherry

½ ounce orange liqueur
½ ounce fresh lime juice
2 dashes orange bitters
Ice
2 ounces light, dry cider, chilled
In a shaker, combine the gin, sherry, orange liqueur, lime juice and bitters. Add ice, cover and shake vigorously until the drink is well chilled, about 15 seconds. Strain into a chilled cocktail glass and top with cider.
— Recipe by Rebekah Peppler



The bell peppers and tomatoes with this skillet chicken are halfway between a sauce and a side dish. DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS

A sweet goodbye to pepper, tomato season

By Melissa Clark
The New York Times

The cool nights and crisp days of fall may have reached the Northeast, but that hasn't lessened the flow of tomatoes and sweet bell peppers at my local farmers market, piled up in red and gold profusion. Unlike their peak-summer counterparts, these autumnal specimens can be soft and a bit wrinkly at the edges. While no longer ideal for tossing raw in salads and slaws, they're still full of flavor and perfectly suited to long, slow simmering into stews, soups and silky sauces. When cooked until their flesh practically melts, bell peppers and tomatoes become velvety and rich, condensing and sweetening as their juices thicken and bubble away. The two make up the backbone of this heady skillet chicken, where they're simmered down into something that's halfway between a sauce and a side



Because both peppers and tomato turn so sweet when cooked in the pan, include a bright, briny element to balance them. A handful of torn green olives does the job here.

dish. Because both peppers and tomato turn so sweet in the pan, I like to include a bright, briny element to balance them. A handful of torn green olives does the job here, offering contrast

and a tangy bite. But you can use capers, pickled pepperoncini or other pickled vegetables, or even some crumbled feta if olives are not your thing. Once that's ready, it can accompany almost

anything. Adding protein turns it into a satisfying meal, whether you reach for pork chops or fish, tempeh or tofu, or eggs that have been scrambled, fried or even poached right in the sauce. (Shakshuka

is born of this same basic technique.) For a lighter nibble, spoon the rich stew over crostini, maybe topped with a cloud of ricotta to make it that much plusher. Or you could take this weeknight route and add chicken thighs. When seared until their skins crisp and render a sheen of brawny fat, they'll lend richness along with sustenance. Cooked as written, the sauce will probably turn out on the brothy side, great for pouring over rice or cous-cous, or for sopping up with hunks of soft-crumbed bread. But if you are looking for something heartier, remove the chicken pieces from the pan once they're cooked, then simmer to reduce the sauce, stirring occasionally, for another 5 to 8 minutes. Return the chicken to the pan and stir in the olives, then garnish with herbs to serve. It will be a cozy meal to warm up a chilly evening — and just as tasty when the weather is warm.

Skillet chicken with silky peppers and green olives

Total time: 45 minutes
Makes: 4 to 6 servings
2 ¼ pounds bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh oregano (or 2 teaspoons dried)
2 teaspoons kosher salt (Diamond Crystal), plus more to taste
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 red, yellow or orange bell peppers (or a combination of colors)
5 garlic cloves
1 medium fresh tomato
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more as needed
⅓ teaspoon red-pepper flakes
¾ cup pitted, roughly chopped green olives, such as Castelvetrano
½ cup roughly chopped fresh parsley, basil, cilantro or a combination
Lemon wedges, for serving (optional)

1. Pat chicken dry with paper towels. Season all over with 1 tablespoon oregano, 1 ½ teaspoons salt and ½ teaspoon black pepper. Set aside at room temperature while preparing the vegetables (or refrigerate for up to 24 hours).

2. Slice the peppers into ¼-inch strips, removing the seeds. Peel and thinly slice the garlic cloves. Chop the tomato.

3. In a large skillet, heat 1 tablespoon oil over medium-high. When the oil thins out and coats the bottom of the pan, add chicken, skin-side down, and sear until browned on both sides, 4 to 6 minutes per side. Do this in batches if necessary; don't crowd the pan. Transfer the chicken pieces to a plate as they brown.

4. Add remaining 1 tablespoon oil to the skillet and stir in peppers. Sauté until tender and lightly browned, 6 to 8 minutes. Add garlic, remaining oregano and red-pepper flakes, and cook until garlic is lightly golden, 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in tomato and remaining ½ teaspoon salt, and cook until tomatoes begin to release their juices, 3 minutes.

5. Lower heat to a simmer and nestle in the browned chicken, skin-side up, pouring in any accumulated juices from the plate. Partly cover the pan and cook until chicken is cooked through and peppers are soft and stewy, 20 to 30 minutes. Taste and add more salt if needed. In the last minute or two of cooking, stir in olives to let them heat up. Remove from heat, and sprinkle parsley or other herbs on top. Garnish with lemon wedges, if you like.

By Amelia Rampe
TheKitchn.com

Potato roses are thinly sliced potatoes that are soaked, seasoned and formed into roses in a muffin tin. They're a sweet way to show someone (or yourself) that you care, to demonstrate your artistic prowess, or to just have a little fun with your food. Serve them with just about anything you're cooking — I keep fantasizing about a perfectly cooked steak with pan sauce drizzled onto the potato rose petals. Hungry yet? Yukon Gold potatoes are the best choice for roses. They have a lower starch content than russets, which means they bake up with a crispier texture. Soaking the potatoes removes excess starch, creating a crispier end result. The batch I baked with unsoaked potatoes was starchy in the center with chewy edges. The soaked potatoes, however, had velvety centers with light and super-crispy edges — a much more pleasurable eating experience.



Sliced Yukon Gold potatoes are formed into decorative roses. JOE LINGEMAN/THEKITCHN.COM

To soak the potatoes, you'll simply cover the slices with cold water and let them sit for 15 minutes. Then drain them and pat dry before coating with the garlic butter.

How do you make a potato rose? Working from

the outside in and starting with the larger potato slices, line the perimeter of a greased muffin cup with five slices, shingling and bending them as needed. Repeat with five more slices, placing them inside the first layer. Shingle three slices on a cutting board

and roll them up into a coil, then place in the center of the cup. Repeat with three more slices. At this point, you'll have to use your artistic eye. Add more rolled slices as needed, placing them in the center until a rose shape is formed.

Potato roses

Makes: 6 roses
1 pound small Yukon Gold potatoes
2 cloves garlic
4 tablespoons unsalted butter, plus more for coating the muffin tin
2 teaspoons kosher salt
¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
⅓ teaspoon cayenne pepper

1. Peel 1 pound Yukon Gold potatoes. Using a very sharp knife or mandoline, cut the potatoes crosswise into very thin, ⅛-inch-thick slices. Place in a large bowl and add enough very cold water to cover. Let the potatoes soak for 15 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, arrange a rack in the middle of the oven and heat the oven to 400 degrees. Coat 6 wells of a standard muffin tin with unsalted butter. Finely grate 2 garlic cloves. Melt 4 tablespoons unsalted butter in a small skillet over medium heat. (Alternatively, melt the butter in a small bowl in the microwave, about 30 seconds on high power.) Turn off the heat. Add the garlic, 2 teaspoons kosher salt, ¼ teaspoon black pepper and ⅓ teaspoon cayenne pepper, and stir to combine.

3. When the potatoes are done soaking, drain, pat them dry with a towel and return to the bowl. The slices will feel firmer and less malleable.

4. Transfer the butter mixture onto the potatoes.

Working quickly with your hands, separate the potato slices and rub with the butter mixture. Depending on how cold the potatoes are, the butter may solidify; just rub the butter into the potato slices, and it will melt as it bakes.

5. Build the potato roses, arranging the potato slices in one muffin well at a time: Working from the outside in and starting with the larger slices, press 5 slices against the sides of the well, shingling and bending them as needed. Repeat arranging and overlapping 5 more slices inside the first layer. Shingle 3 slices on a cutting board and roll them up together into a tight coil, then place in the center of the well. Repeat shingling and rolling 3 more slices, and place in the center of the well. Depending on what the rose looks like at this point, you may need to twist one or two more slices and place them in the center of the rose.

6. Repeat until you have 6 roses. If you have any smaller pieces that don't twist well, stack them up in a buttered muffin well to make mini pommes anna.

7. Bake until the edges of the potato roses are golden brown and crispy, and the centers are tender, 30 to 35 minutes. While the pan is still warm, run a small offset spatula around each rose to loosen and remove from the pan.

Among chardonnays, Chablis is different

It’s not the best of this type of wine, but it’s the most singular

By Eric Asimov
The New York Times

Once, years ago, when I was in a restaurant on the Mendocino Coast on a work trip, I overheard an English guy asking the bartender whether she had a white wine with a “butt’ry flavor.” I never forgot it because she poured him a California chardonnay that I knew well, one that wasn’t remotely buttery. And he loved it.

I took two lessons from this incident: First, people are not always able to describe precisely what it is they like or don’t like in a wine, and second, what they want is not necessarily restricted to what they think they want.

We have spent the last month drinking and considering Chablis from the 2019 vintage. The idea was to compare Chablis to other chardonnays we have known and to think about the difference that vintage year can make, especially for a wine that can be as distinctive as this one.

As usual, I suggested three bottles for readers to try and, if they chose, to offer their thoughts about the wines. In addition to sharing a lot of love for Chablis, readers used this opportunity to express a general distaste for chardonnay, which happens to be the grape of Chablis and one of the most widely planted white grapes in the world.

Most of the reaction centered on two issues readers associated with chardonnay: oak and butter. Many readers linked the buttery flavor they detested (or in one case loved) to the use of oak barrels. In addition, many implied that this oaky, buttery quality was a common characteristic of chardonnay in general and



The 2019 vintage confirms Chablis’s distinctive qualities — as for other chardonnays, blame the winemaker, not the place or the grape.
PEPE SERRA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

of California chardonnay in particular.

We have spoken often here about the tenacious grasp of conventional wisdom in all areas of wine. The butter-and-oak connection to chardonnay is a prime example of how a thought that once had an element of truth evolves into a widely held perception that often is demonstrably wrong.

I will return to that thought, but first, here are the three bottles I suggested: Samuel Billaud Chablis 2019, Gilbert Picq & Ses Fils Chablis En Vaudécorse 2019 and Patrick Piuze Chablis Terroir de Fyé 2019.

I asked readers to think about how vintages can affect the character of a wine. This can be particularly telling with a wine like Chablis, which at its best has a particular stony, chalky, seashell minerality that I consider the most distinctive expression of chardonnay. I’ve seen many chardonnays from elsewhere described as “Chablis-like,” but never have I found the characterization to be true.

This is not to say Chablis

is the best chardonnay, only the most singular. The region’s terroir produces this idiosyncratic wine. But the terroir is fragile, and the biggest variable aside from the human factor is weather, particularly given the continuing effect of climate change.

The years 2017-19 were a case in point. The weather was relatively cool in 2017, with late frosts that diminished yields, but the wines were vibrant and full of Chablis character, which delighted me. The next year was hot and dry, producing ripe, rich wines that were often excellent but seemed less typical of Chablis. They spoke more of the grape, chardonnay, than the place, Chablis.

I’m speaking generally here. We can always find exceptions. As part of Burgundy, Chablis employs a hierarchical system in which every bottle is ranked according to its potential for distinctiveness and greatness. At base are Petite Chablis, followed by Chablis, Chablis Premier Cru and, at the top, Chablis Grand Cru.

The 2019 vintage was also warm and dry, but

not quite as warm as 2018, and the harvest extended longer, as the grapes did not ripen as quickly as in 2018.

Tasting the 2019s offered a good opportunity to see whether the wines were more like the ’17s or the ’18s, though I realize for our purposes a direct comparison between the ’18s and ’19s would have been even more revealing. Some readers were already onto the differences. “I think with global warming, vintage differences in Chablis may be getting more dramatic,” said Larry of Boston, pointing to 2018 and ’19 as well as 2014 and ’15 as good examples.

I loved these three 2019s. The Picq seemed to me to be textbook village Chablis, greenish-gold in color, tense, energetic and saline, with flavors of apples, pears and herbs.

The Piuze was fresh and textured, less incisive than the Picq but more dimensional and exuberant, with flavors that were more floral and citrus than mineral. By contrast, the Billaud seemed quieter, more mellow, lightly mineral, gently saline, thoroughly Chablis-like

but without the adolescent energy of the other two.

One of my favorite things about wine is how three bottles like these, all from the same vintage and from roughly the same place, can be simultaneously so alike and yet so different. They reflect the power of the general Chablis terroir, but also the subtle variations between different parcels of land and the differing methods and personalities of their producers.

Many readers, while standing up for Chablis, denounced chardonnay in general. They described it as buttery or tasting like butterscotch or even buttered popcorn. Many blamed oak for producing these flavors and centered the problem in California.

I want to make three points: First, flamboyant, buttery, oaky California chardonnays became popular in the 1980s and ’90s, popular enough that producers around the world emulated the style.

But over the last 10 or 15 years, the fashion has ebbed. This style continues to have its fans, like Dariala of Massachusetts, but California chardonnay is far

more stylistically diverse today. Let’s not assume that California chardonnay means big, buttery and oaky, because it’s just as easy to find taut, steely examples.

Second, as I’ve suggested, oak is not the villain, though sometimes the way wine-makers use oak barrels to flavor wines can be nefarious. These days, I find many more wines are enhanced by judicious use of oak barrels rather than harmed by overdoing it.

Finally, the influence of oak has little to do with the perception of a buttery flavor. That quality, properly known as diacetyl, is a byproduct of malolactic fermentation, in which bacteria transform sharp malic acid into softer lactic acid, which is found in dairy products like butter, milk and cheese.

Here’s the bottom line, and you can extend this from chardonnay to just about any kind of wine: Don’t blame the grape or the container; they are almost never at fault. Most problems in wine can be traced to the producer, whether in the vineyard or in the winemaking.

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Treat yourself to cozy apple muffins

By Sheela Prakash
TheKitchn.com

These warm apple muffins, kissed with cinnamon sugar, are the coziest breakfast to wake up to in the morning. Unlike dense, super-sweet muffins that taste more like dessert, these muffins are fluffy and just lightly sweetened, with chunks of tart apples that help balance everything out. Sit down to one with your morning coffee, or pack one up for breakfast on the go.

Tart apples, such as Granny Smith, Honeycrisp or Gala, are the best choice for these muffins. These kinds of apples lend tangy, juicy sweetness, which is the perfect counterpart to the moist and fluffy crumb. They also hold their shape well when baked, which means the chunks of fruit

remain evenly scattered throughout the muffins.

There's no need to peel the apples for these muffins, as the skin will become tender in the oven. Skipping this step keeps prep time to a minimum, which means you can have warm muffins on your breakfast table even faster. However, if you'd prefer to peel them, you absolutely can.

There's a fine line between using too little and too much apple in muffins. The fruit lends lots of moisture to the muffins' crumb, so if you use too little the muffins will end up dry and lacking in flavor. But if you overload the batter with apple chunks, the muffins may bake up gummy or dense. This recipe calls for just the right amount of apples to ensure perfectly moist muffins.



These tender muffins are studded with chunks of fresh apple and showered with plenty of cinnamon sugar.
JOE LINGEMAN/THEKITCHN.COM

Apple muffins

Makes: 12 servings
Paper muffin liners or cooking spray
2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup plus 4 teaspoons granulated sugar, divided
2 teaspoons baking powder
4 teaspoons ground cinnamon, divided

½ teaspoon kosher salt
1 ¼ cups whole or 2% milk
½ cup neutral oil, such as canola or grapeseed
1 large egg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 medium tart apples (about 12 ounces total), such as Granny Smith or Honeycrisp

- 1. Arrange** a rack in the middle of the oven and heat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a standard 12-well muffin pan with paper liners or coat the wells with cooking spray.
 - 2. Whisk** 2 ½ cups all-purpose flour, ½ cup of the granulated sugar, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 2 teaspoons of the ground cinnamon and ½ teaspoon kosher salt together in a large bowl. Stir the remaining 4 teaspoons granulated sugar and 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon together in a small bowl and set aside for the topping.
 - 3. Place** 1 ¼ cups whole or 2% milk, ½ cup neutral oil, 1 large egg and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract together in a medium bowl and whisk until combined. Core and dice 2 medium apples (peel first if desired, about 2 ½ cups).
 - 4. Pour** the milk mixture into the flour mixture and mix with a wooden spoon or rubber spatula until just combined. Some lumps are fine. Gently fold in the diced apple.
 - 5. Divide** the batter between the muffin wells — about ⅓ cup of batter per well. Sprinkle each muffin with ½ teaspoon cinnamon-sugar.
 - 6. Bake** until the muffins are golden brown and a toothpick inserted into the center of a muffin comes out clean, about 20 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes before removing the muffins from the pan.
- Quick bread variation:** To bake as a quick bread, line a 9-by-5-inch loaf pan with a parchment paper sling and coat the pan and paper lightly with cooking spray. Pour the batter into the prepared pan, sprinkle with sugar, and bake at 375 degrees until a toothpick inserted into the center of a muffin comes out clean, 45 to 60 minutes.



These steaks get their deliciously browned crust through the power of the Maillard reaction.
CHANTAL LAMBETH/AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

Cook perfect steaks with this pan-searing method

America's Test Kitchen

Pan searing is a great way to create a tasty crust on the outside of meat. The Maillard reaction begins on the surface of the meat, as it dries out in the heat of the pan. The proteins begin to break down into amino acids, and interact with the heat and sugars to create new flavor compounds.

The meat cooks from the outside in, so

a layer of dark brown crust forms on the outside, while the inside stays pink.

In this recipe, we start the steaks in a cold pan and flip them over every two minutes. This means that the meat's temperature rises gradually, allowing more time for nice browning to build up on the outside without overcooking the inside. (This slow start also keeps the steaks from smoking and splattering on the stove.)

steaks and cook for 2 minutes.

- 3. Reduce** heat to medium. Flip the steaks and continue to cook, flipping steaks every 2 minutes, until well browned and the meat registers 120 to 125 degrees on an instant-read thermometer, 4 to 10 minutes longer. (Steaks should be sizzling gently in the pan; if not, increase the heat slightly. If the skillet starts to smoke, turn the heat down.)
 - 4. Transfer** the steaks to a cutting board. Let the steaks rest for 5 minutes. Slice crosswise into thin strips. Sprinkle sliced steak evenly with salt. Serve.
- Note:** You can also use ribeye steaks for this recipe, if you prefer.

Pan-seared strip steaks

Makes: 4 servings
2 (12-ounce) boneless strip steaks, about 1 ½ inches thick
1 teaspoon pepper
¼ teaspoon kosher salt

1. Place the steaks on a large plate. Use paper towels to pat both sides of each steak dry. Sprinkle steaks evenly with half of the pepper. Flip them over and sprinkle evenly with the remaining pepper.

2. Place the steaks 1 inch apart in a 12-inch nonstick skillet. Turn the heat to high and cook for 2 minutes. Use tongs to flip the

SERIOUSLY SIMPLE

French pot roast warms you up on a chilly autumn night

By Diane Rossen
Worthington
Tribune Content Agency

The days are getting shorter, the nights longer and the temperature is dipping. Just in time comes a simple recipe for classic French pot roast to enjoy on a chilly night. This dish differs in a specific way from our American pot roast.

What's the difference? Usually, water or broth is used instead of wine to slowly braise the meat, and often root vegetables are cooked with the classic Yankee pot roast. In this recipe, wine is used as the braising liquid. As with any slowly braised dish, this pot roast will benefit greatly in flavor if left to cool, refrigerated overnight, and gently reheated before serving. This also makes it easier to remove any excess fat. While you



In this recipe, wine is used as the braising liquid.
DREAMSTIME/TNS

can cook it over the stove, I prefer to cook it in the oven to regulate the heat and evenly cook it.

While this is traditionally prepared with boneless beef chuck or the bottom round, I use brisket because I find it gives the most tender and flavorful result. The wine, vinegar and dried mushrooms help

to develop an aromatic savory sauce.

Similar to the French “Daube,” this melt-ingly tender roast can be accompanied by some egg noodles tossed with defrosted petit pois, a little butter and some fresh chives. Or try it with creamy mashed potatoes and steamed spinach.

French pot roast

Makes: 6 servings
1-ounce dried mushrooms like shiitake or morels
2 cups beef broth or water
¼ cup olive oil
Salt
Freshly ground black pepper
4 pounds beef brisket (first cut preferred) or boneless beef chuck, patted dry
2 medium yellow onions, coarsely chopped
2 slices bacon, diced into ½-inch pieces
2 medium carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
¾ cup dry red wine
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
3 garlic cloves, minced
1 sprig fresh thyme or ½ teaspoon dried
3 sprigs parsley
1 bay leaf
2 tablespoons finely chopped parsley, for garnish

1. Combine the mushrooms and broth in a small saucepan and bring to a boil on high heat for 5 minutes. Cover and cool.

2. In a large nonstick Dutch oven or heavy flameproof casserole dish, heat 2 tablespoons of oil over medium high heat. Season the beef lightly with salt and pepper. Brown the beef, using heavy kitchen tongs to turn and brown all sides evenly, about 10

to 15 minutes. Remove the beef to a side dish.

3. Add the remaining oil, reduce the heat to medium and add the onions and bacon to the pan; saute for about 10 to 12 minutes or until the onions are brown and slightly caramelized, stirring to be sure not to let them burn. Add the carrots and saute 3 more minutes or until slightly softened.

4. Add the mushrooms and broth, wine, vinegar, garlic, herbs and bay leaf to the pot and bring it to a boil. Return the beef to the pot, cover with some of the vegetables and reduce the heat until the liquid is at a simmer. Cook, on top of the stove, partially covered, for 2 to 2 ½ hours or until the meat is tender. Maintain the heat so that the liquid is barely simmering and turn the roast several times during the cooking process. Alternatively, you can roast in a 325-degree preheated oven for about 2 ½ hours or until the meat is tender.

5. Remove meat and place on a cutting board to rest for at least 15 minutes.

6. Remove the bay leaf and herb sprigs from the sauce. Taste for seasoning.

7. Slice the meat against the grain in ¼-inch slices. Place the meat on a serving platter with a lip for the sauce or in a gratin dish. Spoon over the sauce. Garnish with parsley. Serve immediately.